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A PULPIT MANUAL

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JAMES BURNS, M.A.



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A PULPIT MANUAL

A PULPIT MANUAL

CONTAINING FORMS OF

PRAYERS USED IN THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC WORSHIP ;
SUGGESTIVE SUMMARIES ; ORDERS OF SERVICE FOR
CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS, MARRIAGE,
ADMISSION TO COMMUNION, CHURCH
FESTIVALS, AND OTHER PUBLIC
OCCASIONS

PREPARED BY

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PART I

A PULPIT MANUAL

On the Conduct of Public Worship

To offer unto God acceptable and adoring worship is the highest instinct of the human soul, and calls for the most exalted effort which the nature of man can undertake. It is incumbent, therefore, upon those whose high and solemn duty it is to lead the devotions of a congregation, to enter upon it with a prepared heart, with a spirit attuned to its solemnities, and with a mien at once reverent and devout. It is incumbent also upon such, to seek by every means to assist those who present themselves in the sanctuary to offer unto God spiritual sacrifices acceptable unto Him. To do this it is necessary so to conceive, and so to conduct the service, that it shall lead the worshipper by successive steps to a deepening sense of need, to a clear realization of the Divine Presence, and to an enriching sense of fellowship with Him Whom they worship. The different acts of worship, thus, should not be left to the impulse of the moment, but should be intelligently and sympathetically conceived with these great ends in view.

The worship of God may fitly be opened by a "Call to Worship" in words of Holy Scripture—at the reading of which the people should be invited to stand—and be followed by a Prayer of Invocation, in which God is adored, and in which approach to Him is earnestly supplicated. The opening hymn should be in keeping

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with such aspirations, and may fitly express the glory of the divine nature, or the joy of worshippers at the return of the Day of Rest.

As a sense of sin must ever be the prevailing burden of all who truly draw near to God, it is meet and right that such confession should thereafter be made, with petitions for mercy, cleansing and renewal, so that, with forgiven hearts and restored communion, the people may go forward to a deeper realization of the Divine Presence, and with minds prepared to hear what God the Lord shall say.

Where no Lectionary is used the passages of Holy Scripture should be carefully selected beforehand, and should be reverently read without comment. When explanation of the contents is deemed advisable it is suggested that this should be done before or after the reading, that the message of God's Word be not hampered. Between the Lessons the act of praise wherever possible should be selected from the great Hymns or Canticles of the Church, so that thereby the worshippers may be united with the praise of the universal Church of Christ. Following the New Testament Lesson a short address to the children may be given, care being taken that the spiritual tone of the worship be not sacrificed or its high reverences lost. The child mind is best educated by reverence and awe.

Following the Scripture reading, and children's address, an act of praise should be rendered. Where this does not take the form of a children's hymn the subject should be the work of the Holy Spirit, or a hymn of aspiration and prayer, at the conclusion of which the

On the Conduct of Public Worship

minister shall lead the people in a prayer of Thanksgiving, in which the worshippers joyfully lay upon God's altar their sacrifices of praise and gratitude, and thereafter unite in Intercessions on behalf of their brethren. The prayer of Intercession may fitly conclude with the Lord's Prayer in which the people should be invited to join.

At the conclusion of this prayer the Announcements may be made. These, if possible, should be given out by some office-bearer of the Church, all matter not dealing with the spiritual work of the Church being rigidly excluded. The hymn which follows may fitly be a hymn of consecration, of spiritual experience, or of devout aspiration.

Before the Sermon the people should be led in a prayer for Illumination, and at the conclusion of the Sermon in a prayer for divine blessing upon the preaching of the Word. The Offertory, which is an act of worship, in which the people give of their gifts to God for the growth of His Kingdom, if not already taken, may here follow. During the taking of the Offertory a voluntary should be played upon the organ—any act of praise, or anthem by the Choir, being delayed until this act of worship be completed.

The closing act of praise may fitly be a Doxology, or hymn of Praise and Thanksgiving, at the conclusion of which, the Benediction being pronounced, the people remain bowed in silent prayer. Every effort should be made to maintain these closing moments in perfect silence, that the private devotions of the people be in no ways disturbed by any outward distractions.

Suggested Order of Service

MORNING

Scripture Sentence and Prayer of Invocation.

Hymn.

Prayer—Confession and Petition.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.

Canticle, Psalm or Hymn.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

(followed by Children's Address).

Hymn (Children's).

Prayer (Thanksgiving and Intercession with
Lord's Prayer).

Announcements.

Anthem or Hymn.

Collect of Illumination.

SERMON.

Prayer after Sermon.

Offertory.

Hymn.

BENEDICTION.

(For Evening Worship an abbreviated order of service will in most cases be found necessary.)

Opening Sentences

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord.

Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

O taste and see that the Lord is good ; blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.

Draw nigh unto God, and He will draw nigh unto you. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up.

From the rising of the sun, to the going down of the same, the Lord's Name is to be praised.

Serve the Lord with gladness ; come before His presence with singing.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise ; be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.

If ye being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in Heaven give good gifts to them that ask Him.

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Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found ; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Ask and it shall be given you ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth ; and he that seeketh findeth ; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

I will pay my vows unto the Lord, now, in the presence of all His people.

CHRISTMAS

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy.

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given ; and the government shall be upon His shoulder ; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

CLOSING YEAR

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

Beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. He will be our Guide even unto death.

Opening Sentences

NEW YEAR

The Lord is my shepherd ; I shall not want.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the House of the Lord for ever.

GOOD FRIDAY

God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

EASTER

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem ; for the Lord hath comforted His people, He hath redeemed Jerusalem.

ASCENSION

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

WHIT-SUNDAY

As many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God. The Spirit also helpeth our infirmities ; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought.

HARVEST

The Earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof ; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Every good gift, and every perfect gift, is from above.

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Oh, that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!

FLOWER SERVICE

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Now therefore our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious Name.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven.

Except ye be converted, and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children.

SERVICE FOR YOUNG MEN

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth. My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

MISSIONS

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth. Men shall be blessed in Him, all nations shall call Him blessed. All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Opening Sentences

HOSPITAL SUNDAY

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

And they brought unto Him all sick people, and He healed them. And as many as touched Him were made whole.

Invocation

MORNING

Almighty God, without Whose presence all worship is vain, and without whose light we have no understanding, vouchsafe to lead us into Thy holy presence, and release us from the darkness of our sins by Thy heavenly light ; that we, together with all Thy Church, may worship Thee this day in spirit and in truth, to the honour of Thy name, and to the glory of Thy Kingdom, through our only Lord and Mediator, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

God of our Fathers, Who hast led Thy people in all generations, lead us now, we beseech Thee, into Thy most holy presence, and govern all the thoughts and desires of our hearts, that our worship this day may be pure and acceptable, and may so fit us to serve Thee here, that we may be accepted of Thee hereafter, and this we humbly seek through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Most Holy God, to Whom every heart is open, and from Whom no secrets are hidden, purify by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit the minds and hearts of Thy people here assembled, and grant that this day we may worthily worship and adore Thy Holy Name, receiving into our hearts the joy of Thy presence, and into our minds all peaceful and pure thoughts, and these things we humbly seek through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Invocation

Eternal and ever Blessed God, into Whose most holy presence we seek to enter through the mystical gateway of prayer, make clean our hands and our lips, and mercifully endue us with humble and contrite hearts ; help us now in our worship, and at all times in our lives, to approach Thee in reverence, and to serve Thee in faithfulness, to the end that we, ever living in the fear of God, may be purified from all earthly stain, and made meet at last to dwell with Thee in Thy pure and pleasant Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Father of Mercies, Who seest us in Thy house—men and women and little children—gathered to lift up our voices in Thy praise, our hearts in Thy worship ; and Who dost behold us poor, and sinful, and mortal ; gather us in mercy around Thy feet ; accept our broken and feeble petitions ; enter not into judgment against any one of us, but feed us with the bread sent down from Heaven, that our souls being cleansed and comforted we may this day rejoice in God, through our only Lord and Mediator, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Almighty God, Who hast planted the day-star in the heavens, and, scattering the night, dost restore morning to the world, restore unto us, we beseech Thee, Thy heavenly light ; Grant us to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain ; that, reaching the eventide victorious over all temptations, we may praise Thee, the eternal God, Who art ever blessed, and dost govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

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We bless and praise and magnify Thee, O God of our fathers, Who hast led us out of the shadows of night once more into the light of day. Accept now, in Thy mercy, the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant unto us all such requests as may be wholesome for us. Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy mercies, Thy whole Church ; all who join with us in prayer ; all our brethren by land or sea, or wherever they may be in Thy vast Kingdom, who stand in need of Thy grace and succour. Pour out upon them, and upon us, the riches of Thy mercy, so that we, redeemed in soul and body, may ever praise Thy wonderful and holy Name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

(Greek Church)

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, Who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking ; we beseech Thee to have compassion upon our infirmities ; and those things, which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(Book of Common Prayer)

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, Who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Thy mighty power ; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger ; but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always that is righteous in Thy sight ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* *(Book of Common Prayer)*

Invocation

EVENING

Almighty God, Who hast made the brightness of Thy face to be the glory of Thy creation, and who makest the darkness to shine as the light ; Thine, O Lord, is the glory and majesty, and the victory is Thine ; wherefore with angels and archangels, and the heavenly host, and with Thy Holy Church throughout the world, we unite to laud and magnify Thy Holy Name, beseeching Thee to grant unto us, Thine unworthy servants, the aid of Thy Spirit, that in our worship we may adore Thee, and in our lives render unto Thee all glory and honour and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

Abide with us, O God, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us for the days are hastening on, and we haste with them, and our life is short and transient as a dream. Abide with us, for we are weak and helpless, and if Thou abide not with us we perish by the way ; Abide with us until the Day-star ariseth, and the morning light appeareth, when we shall abide for ever with Thee. *Amen.*

Almighty God, Whose light shines undimmed across the restless sea of our lives, look favourably, we beseech Thee, upon Thy Church, upon Thy people worshipping Thee in this place, and upon all our brethren the world over ; Let Thy light rest upon us to calm and bless dispel the dark night of our sins and errors ; help us now with peaceful and pure hearts to worship Thy Name, and ever in our lives dutifully to serve, and faithfully to follow Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

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Father in Heaven, Who hast brought us unto the closing of the day, let the peace of the eventide descend upon us ; may every stormy passion be subdued, every unquiet thought cast out, every earthly care and anxiety forgotten, that in the calm of Thy loving presence we may find a remedy for our soul's unrest, and in Thy loving-kindness an answer to our every need. Hear us, we humbly beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

Most Gracious Father, Who hast assembled us within Thy courts at this hour of the evening sacrifice, grant unto us, we humbly entreat Thee, light at eventide ; help us, as we wait upon Thee, to forget the world and the cares which belong to it, and while with our lips we offer unto Thee our supplications and our praises, help us inwardly to adore Thee with our hearts ; and these things we beg through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Father in Heaven, Whose loving-kindness is great toward us, and Who hast brought us in safety to this hour of evening worship, continue Thy mercies unto us, we humbly beseech Thee, and as the evening shadows fall around us, let Thy light appear, and Thy glory unto Thy children, that we all with joyful and thankful hearts may worship Thee this night, and glorify Thee continually throughout our lives, through our only Lord and Advocate, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

ADVENT

O God, Who didst prepare of old the minds and hearts of men for the coming of Thy Son, and Whose Spirit

Invocation

ever worketh to bring the light of His glorious gospel into our darkened lives, prepare now our minds and hearts, we entreat Thee, that Christ may tabernacle within us, and ever reign in our thoughts and affections as the King of Love, and the very Prince of Peace. Grant this, we pray Thee, for His sake. *Amen.*

CHRISTMAS

Most Blessed Saviour, Who for the salvation of sinful men didst empty Thyself of heavenly glory, and didst enter into our life as a little Child, help us to celebrate this happy festival by opening our hearts afresh unto Thee, and as we recall Thy goodness, and sing Thy praises, may we be filled with love and adoring gratitude to Thee, Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR

Most Merciful God, Who through the changes of our mortal life dost ever teach us to number our days, and to apply our hearts unto wisdom, accept our gratitude for the unnumbered blessings of this year, mercifully blot out the many sins which stain the book of Thy remembrance, and so sanctify to us this hour of worship that we may be enabled to face the future without fear, confident of Thy protection, and trusting in Thy guidance, and this we seek in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

THE NEW YEAR

Accept our thanksgivings, most gracious Father, for the love that has spared us to see the beginning of

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this new year of worship and of service ; into Thy hands we commit our lives, that through it we may be safely guided and lovingly kept ; may each day bring to us an ever deepening sense of Thy Fatherly care, and from our hearts an ever-increasing song of love and gratitude, and, whatever be in store for us, may all our experiences perfect our worship, and deepen our devotion to Thee, and to our fellow-men, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GOOD FRIDAY

Ⓞ **G**OD, Who hast revealed unto us in the Cross of Thy Son that perfect love is perfect sacrifice, help us to look upon Him Who was pierced for us, and as we behold Him may our sin be crucified within us, so that dying unto sin we may live unto righteousness, and faithfully bearing our Cross may be numbered among Thine elect. Grant this, O Father of Mercies, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

EASTER

Most Blessed Saviour, Who wast delivered for our offences, and raised again for our justification, Who by Thy resurrection from the grave hast set us free from its terrors, and given unto us the blessed hope of immortality, so unite us this day with Thy risen and glorified Life, that the sin which worketh death in us may be destroyed, and the grace which worketh life in us may be increased, that both in life and death we may be united to Thee, Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit ever reignest one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Invocation

WHIT-SUNDAY

☉ **G**OD, Who by Thy Holy Spirit dost enlighten and bless the hearts that seek Thee, pour down upon Thy Church this day, and upon all longing hearts, the blessings of Pentecost. May Thy Holy and Blessed Spirit come as fire to purify, as light to guide, and as the dew to refresh and bless, and may all our worship this day be pure, and spiritual, and devout; for Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

Confession and Petition

☉ **God**, Who dwellest in perfect purity, into Whose most holy Presence we are unworthy to enter because of our sins, wipe away, we beseech Thee, in Thy mercy our offences, and the sins which we have committed before Thee forgive in Thy loving kindness, O King and Saviour Christ, Who givest life.

Pardon and remit in this hour the transgressions of Thy people here assembled, and mercifully regard our weakness which crieth unto Thee both by night and by day. Vouchsafe unto us with the just who have loved Thee, and with the righteous who have desired Thee, to serve Thee in Thy Kingdom which is everlasting ; where, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, Thou dost reign, O Holy and ever blessed Trinity, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Most Holy God, our Father in Heaven, Who hast revealed Thyself in Jesus Christ as a God of pity and compassion, forgiving the iniquities of such as truly repent, and absolving all those who turn from their sins, grant that with penitent and contrite hearts we may turn unto Thee, acknowledging our unworthiness, and earnestly seeking Thy forgiveness.

We acknowledge with shame and contrition how often we have forgotten Thee, how far we have wandered from Thee, how cold and lukewarm are our hearts, and

Confession and Petition

how evil are the inclinations of our natures. We confess that, when we would do good, evil is present with us, and that even our best moments are stained by our imperfections.

O Sovereign Lord, and blessed Redeemer, Who didst humble Thyself for our redemption, and for the accomplishment of our peace didst ascend unto the Father, graciously apply unto our souls the infinite merits of Thy holy passion, and with Thy precious blood cleanse us from our sins, that we may live a life of obedience here, and be united to Thee in Thy heavenly Kingdom hereafter, where, with the Father and the Spirit, Thou dost reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Most Holy God, Who dwellest in light inaccessible and full of glory, we come to Thee as sinful seeking cleansing, as penitent seeking forgiveness, as weary seeking rest.

We bewail our many failures and transgressions, our secret faults and presumptuous sins, our foolish wanderings, and our constant infidelity. We confess that we have distrusted Thy mercies and despaired of Thy forgiveness; that we have exposed ourselves to temptation and have not repented when we have fallen; that we have delighted in selfish ease and walked in forbidden ways, and that in thought and word and deed we have sinned against Thee, and against our fellow-men.

Most merciful Father, Who hast opened at Calvary a river of cleansing, whose waters wash away the stains of our sin, and restore hearts that are penitent to purity

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and to Thy divine favour, let those cleansing waters pass over our souls, that the stain of our sins may be washed away, and that we may be made clean in Thy most holy sight.

Most blessed Saviour, Thou gracious Comforter and Restorer of all distressed and sin-laden souls, draw us away from our sins, our dangerous affections, and our hidden shame. Let Thy pure love burn out all low desires, and promote all spiritual satisfactions, and let those rich mercies which come down from above upon the hearts of men, descend upon, and reside within us, and be our defence and delight, until, saved by Thy grace, we stand in Thy presence, inheriting the promises, and dwell with Thee in that Kingdom which is everlasting. *Amen.*

Almighty God, most pure, most holy, in Whose blessed and radiant presence angels veil their faces, help us Thine earth-born children now to adore Thee.

We come with hands, with lips, and with hearts stained by sin. We are not what we ought to be, we are not what Thou desirest us to be, we are not what we fain would be. Deeply conscious are we of our sins and failures, and of our many transgressions. So unworthy are our lives that we could not dare to approach unto Thee, hadst Thou not manifested Thyself in Thy Son as a God of forgiveness, a Father Whose mercy is infinite, a Saviour Who seeketh to save the weary and the lost. But Thou hast said, Come unto Me, and weak and erring though we be, we come, trusting in Thy promises. Descend on the wings of Thy mercy, O

Confession and Petition

merciful Father, and grant unto each one of us absolution and restoration to Thy divine favour.

Most pitiful God, Whose riches are not in silver and gold, but in mercy and compassion, bless us now in our worship. Bless those who love Thee and those who love Thee not, and who have most need of Thy blessing; bless the earnest in Thy presence, and bless the careless; bless the spiritually minded, and bless the indifferent; bless the old and bless the young; bless the strong and bless the weak; bless those who are present, bless those who are absent, and bring us all into a better state of mind and heart. Help us to become more merciful; teach us to forgive that we may be forgiven; may the duties and experiences of life educate us in patience, and draw us ever nearer to Thee; and these things we humbly seek in Jesus' Name. *Amen.*

● **God**, Who in Thy great love hast given unto us Thy most holy Son Jesus in Whose Name we come, in Whose intercession we plead, and in Whose sacrifice we trust, receive us, we humbly beseech Thee, and let Thy compassionate eye behold our necessities.

We acknowledge before Thee our manifold sins, the weakness of our natures, the inconstancy of our wills, the iniquities which rise up against us as a thick cloud, and the transgressions by which we have merited Thy most just displeasure. We confess how easily we are distracted in worship, how wanting in constancy, sincerity, and humility are our prayers, how often, when with our lips we draw near to Thee, our thoughts are with the world, and our hearts are fixed upon those

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things from which we seek deliverance. We confess with shame and sorrow how engrossed we are in temporal things, while those which are spiritual we avoid, or faintly pursue, or quickly forget.

O God, Who repellst not the penitent, and scornest not such as truly grieve for their sins, mercifully help us who earnestly crave for Thy forgiveness. Let not the multitude of our transgressions hinder Thee from hearing our supplications, but let Thy mercy prevail, that the just judgments that ought to fall upon us we may escape, and the mercy we do not deserve be granted.

Most gracious Father, Who art able not only to forgive but to redeem, bestow upon us, we beseech Thee, that strength which will enable us to conquer the evils which abound without us and within. Disengage our hearts from all dangerous affections, from all worldly cares, from the love of ease or vain display, and from fruitless solicitude. Guide, we entreat Thee, all our actions by Thy holy inspiration, and sustain us daily by Thy grace, that all our works, begun in Thee, may by Thee be happily ended.

Finally, we beseech Thee to grant, O most merciful Father and Redeemer, that when this earthly tabernacle shall be dissolved, we may be clothed in Thy likeness, and, living in the blessed society of the just made perfect, may ever enjoy Thy glorious presence, and reign with Thee for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Ⓞ God, Who art the righteous Judge of men, Who dost call us this day to repentance, and dost never reject the prayers of such as are truly contrite, hear us,

Confession and Petition

we entreat Thee, as we confess our sins, and in Thy divine clemency grant us absolution.

With shame and contrition we acknowledge our many failures and offences ; our neglect of our duty toward Thee and toward our fellowmen ; our lack of faith, of patience and perseverance ; the rebelliousness of our wills ; our weak and foolish repinings at Thy providence ; our constant misuse of Thy mercies, and our constant mistrust of Thy love.

We confess that we constantly grieve Thy Fatherly heart by our coldness in worship ; by our wandering thoughts in the midst of our devotions ; by our secret delight in sin, and by constant failures of thought, speech, and behaviour. When we remember in the midst of these our sins the multitude of Thy mercies, the greatness of Thy compassion, and the unweariedness of Thy love, our hearts sink within us, and we cry, What is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that Thou visitest him ?

O God of unspeakable love and power, Whose mercy is disclosed in the lives of sinful men, look with compassionate and forgiving eye upon all those who, weary of their sins, turn now to Thee, and by the operations of Thy perpetual Providence fulfil Thy purposes of salvation in each one of us. Let not our past failures chill our present repentance, but to our repentance add faith, and to our faith love, that we may both trust in Thy mercies, and joyfully consecrate ourselves to Thy service.

Most Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling light alone we can walk without stumbling, descend upon us with Thine

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almighty power, and confirm in our earthly hearts these heavenly longings ; purify our minds, enrich our hearts, strengthen our wills so long enfeebled by indulgence, and may this day of worship begin in us a new devotion to the things that are spiritual, and a nobler consecration of our lives to the service of Christ, and to the needs of our fellowmen.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to grant unto us, unworthy, these rich mercies, which now we seek in the Name of our Lord and Advocate Jesus Christ, Who with Thee and the Holy Spirit ever liveth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done ; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done ; And there is no health in us. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare Thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore Thou them that are penitent ; According to Thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name.

Almighty God, Who hast promised to hear the petitions of them that ask in Thy Son's Name ; we beseech Thee mercifully to incline Thine ears to us that have made now our prayers and supplications unto Thee ; and grant that those things which we have faithfully

Confession and Petition

asked according to Thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of Thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(*Book of Common Prayer*)

We confess unto Thee, O Heavenly Father, as Thy children and Thy people, our hardness and indifference and impenitence; our grievous failures in the faith and in pure and holy living; our trust in riches and our misuse of them; our confidence in self, whereby we multiply our temptations. We confess our timorousness as Thy Church and witnesses before the world, and the sin and bitterness that every man knoweth in his heart.

(Here pause.)

Give us all contrition and meekness of heart, O Father, grace to amend our sinful life, and the holy comfort of Thy Spirit to overcome and heal all our evils. Speak peace to all who are praying with us or for us, far away or near. And, we beseech Thee, give us the heart to consider the multitude of miserable souls and lives amongst us, to take effectual pity on them, and ever to render unto Thee the things that are Thine, according to the commandment, and in the Name of our Master and only Saviour, Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who with Thee and the Holy Spirit ever liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. *Amen.*

(*Special Prayer used in the Diocese of Canterbury*)

Petition

We beseech Thee, O Lord, open our hearts, open Thy heavens; from thence may Thy gifts descend to us, from hence may our prayers ascend to Thee. May Thy Throne be laid open to us, and may we receive the benefits we implore; may our minds be laid open to Thee while we render the service which is enjoined on us. Look down from heaven, O Lord; behold and visit this vine which Thy right hand hath planted. Strengthen the weak, relieve the contrite, confirm the strong. Build them up in love, cleanse them with purity, enlighten them with wisdom, keep them with mercy. Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd, Who didst lay down Thy life for the sheep, defend the purchase of Thy blood. Feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; seek for the lost; convert the wandering, build up that which is broken. Put forth Thine own hand from Heaven, and touch the heart of every one here. May they feel the touch of Thine hand, and receive the joy of the Holy Spirit, that they may remain blessed for evermore. *Amen.*

(Prayer of St. Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, 963-984)

A PRAYER FOR MERCY

☉ **God**, Who art rich in compassion, and Who in Christ hast declared Thyself as a God Who delightest in forgiveness, mercifully assist us as we turn now unto Thee, and blot out our transgressions as a thick cloud.

Petition

Have mercy upon us for the sins and faults of youth, for the mistakes and follies of maturer years, for the evil past that pursues us, and cries out against us. Succour us, we beseech Thee, and in Thy divine clemency absolve such as are penitent.

Have mercy also upon all sinful men, upon those whose sin has found them out, upon those who are hiding their sin, upon those whose wrong-doing brings sorrow and calamity upon others, and upon those who have no fear of God before their eyes.

Have mercy upon the children of sinful parents ; upon those who have been born amongst evil conditions, and who are surrounded by evil examples ; and upon all those who are surrendering themselves to evil practices and sinful ways.

Have mercy upon those who once sought the better life, but who now are seeking it not ; and upon those who are withheld from seeking it by social pride or the love of display ; by vain pleasures or worldly ambitions ; by fear of man or distrust of themselves or Thee.

Have mercy upon all cruel, heartless, and vindictive men ; upon all who are callous toward the sufferings of others ; upon all who live selfish or brooding lives ; and upon all who are embittered against their fellowmen.

Have mercy upon the prodigal in the far country ; upon those who may have led or driven him thither ; upon those who wearily wait for his return ; and upon all who stray from their Father's home.

Have mercy upon the prodigal as he seeks to return upon those who despise his repentance, and who refuse to share in the father's joy ; upon the dissolute and the

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careless; and upon all those who know not the things concerning their peace.

Have mercy upon the aged who have misspent their lives; who can find no place for repentance; who are embittered and scornful; and who have no fear of death before their eyes.

Have mercy upon the young who are listening to the false voices of the world; who are allured by the false glamour of sin, and who despise the warnings of their conscience, and the entreaties of their friends.

Have mercy upon us all; upon those who seek Thy clemency, and those who seek it not; and in Thy divine beneficence regard not our utter unworthiness, but for the sake of Thy divine Son, our Redeemer Jesus Christ, restore us to Thy likeness, and make us inheritors of Thy promises.

Finally, O Lord, we beseech Thee to cleanse us, and keep us undefiled, that we may at last be numbered amongst those blessed ones, who having washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, stand before Thy Throne, and serve Thee day and night in Thy Temple. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

Special Petitions

FOR PARDON

Grant us, O Lord, that pardon for our sins which we so earnestly desire, and yet which we so little deserve ; without which we have too long sought to live, and yet without which we dare not die. Let Thy mercy triumph over our unworthiness, and Thy grace over our weakness, that so through no merits of our own, but solely through the infinite merits of Thy Son, we may be saved, and gain entrance into Thine everlasting Kingdom.

FOR CLEANSING

God, Who didst send into the world Thy Son most pure and fair and sinless, and Who in Him dost call us to live the holy life ; wash us, and make our souls white and spotless ; that we, escaping the defilement that is in the world through sin, may enter that fair city where neither sin nor sorrow dwelleth ; where all is love and pure content ; where the blessed labour without weariness, and the pure in heart see God.

FOR UNION WITH CHRIST

Most wise and most Holy God, Who in creating our humanity hast most wonderfully dignified it, and in the Incarnation of Thy Son hast still more wonderfully glorified it, so reform us that in our humanity we may

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be one with Him, and so direct us that in all our thoughts and actions we may reflect His likeness. Help us to build our faith upon such sure foundations, that in the time of tempest we be not shaken, nor in the hour of death overcome, nor in the day of judgment rejected.

FOR GRACE

Father in Heaven, who dost never fail the trustful heart, give us grace in the midst of all our troubles and distresses to have recourse to Thee ; suffer us not to perish through lack of faith or love ; leave not to perpetual lamentation those whom Thou seekest to redeem ; but grant that we, ever relying upon Thy gracious help, may find succour in the midst of our temptations, and grace to help us in every time of need.

FOR PATIENCE

O God, Who knowest the many sorrows and trials by which Thy children are encompassed, grant us patience to endure Thy chastening, and resignation in the midst of Thy discipline, that so we may not hinder Thy work of grace in our hearts by any bitterness or rebellion, but humbly seek to learn the lesson Thou dost teach us through these sorrows, which in love, and not in anger, Thou hast sent us.

FOR FAITH

Most gracious Father, Who amidst the fleeting things of life art changeless, and Who amidst our inconstancy art the same, yesterday, to-day, and for ever, grant unto us that faith which trusts where it cannot

Special Petitions

know, and walks where it cannot see, and which in health and in sickness, in life and in death, clings firmly to Thy promises.

FOR LOVE


○ **God**, Who dost bless the hearts that love Thee, and tendest them with Thy gracious care, engraft in our hearts a deep and tender love of Thee, and so watch and nourish this love of Thy planting, that it shall grow up in us unto everlasting life, and unite us eternally with Thee, and with all that Thou desirest.

FOR PEACEFUL HEARTS

Eternal Father, in Whose most holy Being there is eternal repose, and depthless love, grant unto us and unto all Thy children, that peace which the world cannot give, nor take away; and, amid all the restlessness and change of our mortal life, may our hearts have their abiding home in Thee, and in Thee find quietness and rest.

FOR A READY WILL

Most loving God, Who guidest the meek in judgment, and causest light to arise in the hearts of the just, grant us deliverance from all ensnaring affections of this world, and a ready will to obey Thy commandments, that we, ever inclining our hearts to Thy testimonies, may not stumble, nor lose our way, nor be utterly cast down, but be supported of Thee in this life, and received by Thee in that which is to come.



Thanksgiving and Intercession

Almighty God, the Author and Sustainer of our lives, Who art the Giver of every good and perfect gift, we draw near to Thee with grateful hearts, seeking to praise Thee for Thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men.

We thank Thee for the precious gift of life, and for all the mercies which sustain it ; for the comforts which this day we enjoy ; for health of body, and soundness of mind ; for food and raiment ; for peaceful homes and all who dwell therein ; for the joy of the day's labour, and the strengthening of the night's rest.

We thank Thee for loving parents who have tended us through days of infancy and childhood ; for the teachers and the friendships of our youth, and for all who have strengthened us by their counsel or example.

We thank Thee for the beauty of the world in which we live ; for the glories of the day and night ; for seed-time and harvest ; for summer and winter ; and we rejoice that all Thy works praise Thee, and that Thy Name is glorified throughout all Thy creation.

We bless Thee, also, for the beauty that is in human life ; for all good men and women in the world around us who bear upon their hearts the sorrow of others ; who strive to lift up the fallen, and who alleviate the sufferings of the afflicted and the poor.

Most of all we thank Thee for the gift of Thy Son

Thanksgiving and Intercession

Jesus Christ, the Author of our salvation, and the Lover of our souls. We thank Thee for the beauty of His life; for the graciousness of His Gospel; for the mercy of His Cross; and for all His acts of compassion and love. We thank Thee for the hopes that are ours through Him; for the gift of His spirit; for the promise of His daily guidance amid the perils of this life; and for the blessed hope of immortality in that which is to come.

Grant, we earnestly beseech Thee, that the remembrance of these Thy mercies may deepen in our hearts love to Thee, increasing our faith in Thy goodness, and our joy in Thy service. ✓

Almighty God, Who hast directed us to offer supplications not only for ourselves, but for all men, and in especial for those of our brethren in any distress or need; hear us, we entreat Thee, as for them we intercede, and guide us by Thy Holy Spirit.

With compassionate hearts we remember before Thee the widow and the orphan; the poor and the friendless; the lonely and bereaved; the tempted and the tried; beseeching Thee of Thy mercy to succour them, and in the midst of their many sorrows to support them by Thy heavenly grace.

Hear us, O Lord, when we pray for those who are falling away from Thee; who are growing worldly and careless; who are hardening their hearts against Thy Spirit, and closing their eyes to the light; leave them not to perish, we beseech Thee, O God our Saviour; have pity upon those who have no pity upon themselves; and in Thy great mercy rescue them from danger, and restore them to Thy divine favour.

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Most pitiful Father, Who knowest the many trials by which we are beset, and Who art able to succour us in the midst of them all ; hear us as we pray for all who are losing heart in the battle of life, who are visited by worldly loss, or are embittered by grief ; for all who are being spoiled by prosperity, or hardened by adversity ; and for those who, because of life's disappointments, are becoming estranged from Thee. Have pity upon these our brethren, we humbly beseech Thee ; succour them in the midst of their earthly cares, that in meekness and patience they may endure unto the end, and be saved.

For all prisoners and captives ; for all inmates of work-houses or hospitals ; for those who have lost the guiding light of reason ; for the feeble in mind or body ; and for all those who are in any wise perplexed, in trouble, or despair, hear us, we beseech Thee. And, as it is Thy property to save and not to condemn, let Thy great pitifulness be extended toward these Thy children, that from the midst of their several distresses they may be led to put their whole trust and confidence in Thee.

Most Holy God, Who art the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords, in Whose hands are the destinies of nations and of men, look with favour, we beseech Thee, upon our native land. Bless our sovereign Lord the King, the Queen, the members of the Royal House, and all in authority over us. Hear us when we pray for those who guide the affairs of the realm, for the members of both Houses of Parliament, and for all who hold positions of public trust and responsibility ; guide them, we beseech Thee, in all their duties, and give to all the people the spirit of truth, of justice and of righteousness.

Thanksgiving and Intercession

O God, Who hast set in the world Thy Church to be a light unto them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, bless, we pray Thee, the whole Church of Christ this day. Grant that wherever Thy people meet they may be conscious of Thy presence. Pour out upon Thy people worshipping in this place Thy blessing ; speak peace unto every heart ; and grant that through the holy offices of praise and prayer our lives may be purified, and lifted into closer communion with Thee.

Hear these our prayers, and the unspoken prayers of Thy servants before Thee ; and those whom either by ignorance or forgetfulness we have omitted in our intercessions, do Thou remember and bless.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Our Father Which art in heaven . . .

Almighty God, from Whom come all blessings both spiritual and temporal, Who knowest all our needs, and satisfiest the wants of all Thy creation, graciously hear us, as with thankful hearts we render unto Thee our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

For the Church of Thy dear Son ; for its holy worship and ordinances ; for its ministry and associations ; for its sacred obligations and gracious opportunities,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For Thy Holy Day ; for its peace and rest ; for its hours of communion with Thee, and with Thy people ; for its spiritual joys and sacred memories,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

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For the sanctities of home ; for the affection of parents, and the love of little children ; for the joy of friendship, and the blessings of companionship ; for all earthly love and human sympathy,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For all we have learned of Thee ; for every victory over sin ; for succour in temptation, and strength in weakness ; for power to love Thee and to do Thy works ; and for the hope of being united to Thee in loving service in the larger life beyond,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For the blessed dead who, having served Thee in a pure faith, have entered into rest ; for the holy memory of loved ones gone before us, whose voices call us to walk in the right way, and whose love incites us to purity and to patience,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For the love of Christ ; for the presence in our hearts of Thy Holy Spirit ; for the immortal hopes which illumine the dark path of duty ; for holy examples around us of lives lived in Thy fear and fellowship ; and for the innumerable company of the elect both in Heaven and upon earth, who are joined to Thee in deathless life,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

Grant, we beseech Thee, that with a like faith we may persevere unto the end, and be made partakers of Thy Heavenly Kingdom.

Most gracious God, Who hast been pleased to direct us to offer intercessions on behalf of others, deign

Thanksgiving and Intercession

to listen to our prayers, and encourage us to ask in faith, that we may not ask in vain. For Thy Church throughout the world, that Thou wouldst purify, prosper, and enlighten her ; for all ministers and missionaries, prophets and evangelists, teachers and reformers ; that Thou wouldst give them to labour with constancy, to grow in faith, in patience, and in love, and joyfully to serve Thee, and do Thy work,

Hear us, we beseech Thee.

For all peoples that sit in darkness, and for all missionaries whom Thou hast separated to carry unto them Thy message ; that Thou wouldst prepare the way of Thy servants, and so bless their ministry, that those whom they teach may come to know the love of Christ, and enjoy the riches of the kingdom of God,

Hear us, we beseech Thee.

For all our brethren of this realm ; for our King and Queen ; for all in authority, in places of trust and of responsibility ; that Thou wouldst endow them with heavenly wisdom, and teach them in all things to do Thy will,

Hear us, Heavenly Father.

For all who suffer through accident, or unjustly through the malice or mistakes of others ; for all who are ground down through poverty, oppression, or the selfishness of men ; for all who have suffered wrong, and whose hearts are bitter and vengeful ; that Thou wouldst turn their hearts unto Thee, in Whom alone is justice and peace,

Hear us, Heavenly Father.

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For all who are losing hope in the struggle of life, who are broken in spirit, or faint in heart ; for all who are stricken with disease of body, or of mind ; and and for all whose sorrows lie heavy on our hearts, and whose names now we mention at Thy throne of grace ; that out of their sore trials Thou mayest deliver them,

Hear us, most gracious Father.

For all who are lonely and homeless in their old age ; for little children neglected by their parents, or orphaned in the world ; for all whose strength has been sapped by sin, and whose wills have been weakened by indulgence ; for the multitudes that live as if there were no God, and no Saviour, and yet who are weary and sick of soul ; that Thou wouldst be patient with them and pitiful ; and that Thou wouldst heal their sickness and despair,

Hear us, most gracious Father.

And as it is Thy nature to save and not to destroy, let Thy salvation come nigh unto all our hearts ; let the light which shines for us in the face of Thy Son lighten our darkness, and lead us all in the paths of purity and of peace.

Our Father Which art in Heaven. . .

Almighty God, The Father of all mankind, Who openest Thine Hand, and satisfiest the wants of every living thing, help us to lay upon Thine altar our offering of gratitude and praise.

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father, for all Thy tender care over us ; for healthful days, and peaceful homes ;

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for all that sanctifies and ennobles the relations of life ; for the love of fatherhood and motherhood ; for the sweetness and winsomeness of childhood ; for the reverence and experience of age.

We thank Thee for the good men and women in past generations through whose sacrifices we are enabled to worship Thee in safety, and in the enjoyment of perfect liberty ; for all good influences around us which promote holiness and purity of living ; and for all the experiences of life by which Thou art teaching us wisdom, and patience, and knowledge of Thy laws.

We thank Thee for the revelation of Thyself which Thou hast given in nature, in human history, and in the lives of men and women around us ; for the advance of knowledge and for all things which promote the health and happiness of mankind ; and for all good and pure literature which has emancipated our minds from the bondage of ignorance and superstition.

Above all temporal mercies with which Thy gracious hand has endowed us, we thank Thee for Thy spiritual gifts in Jesus Christ ; for the love wherewith Thou hast loved us, and for Thine eternal purposes of grace toward us in Him ; for the gift of the Holy Spirit by Whose light our souls are illumined, and by Whose guidance our feet are led into the way of peace.

Most loving God, help us to thank Thee for all the discipline and experiences of our lives ; for the trials that have trained us in patience ; for the temptations that have taught us to seek our only refuge in Thee ; for the sorrows that have chastened and purified us ; and for all the sacred and holy ties that bind us to the unseen.

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Grant, O most merciful Father, that in the midst of all these Thy mercies our hearts may not remain cold or thankless, but that, realizing Thy gracious benefits, we may ever seek to become more worthy to receive them.

Almighty God, Whose ear is ever open to the cry of Thy children, hear us, as at Thy mercy seat we plead for all our brethren of the people ; for the high and low, the rich and poor, the learned and the ignorant ; and especially for the sick and the afflicted and such as are drawing nigh unto death ; for all whose sorrows lie heavy upon our hearts, and whom we mention now in name unto Thee. (Here pause.)

We remember before Thee those who bear in the secret of their hearts the burden of anxious care or secret sin ; those who are passing through times of danger, temptation, or doubt ; those who are losing heart in the struggle of life ; and those who, neglecting Thee, are falling into sloth, indifference, or despair.

We remember before Thee all in any spiritual doubt or perplexity, and we pray for those who are withheld from following Thee by pride of heart ; by love of pleasure, ease or display ; by worldly desires or ambitions ; by the fear of man ; or by false views of Thee, and of Thy truth.

O God, Who dost give the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness ; relieve, succour, and enlighten these our brethren for whose necessities we intercede, and grant them a happy and speedy issue out of all their sorrows and afflictions.

Most loving Father, who hast given Thy Church to be a perpetual witness to Thy Truth, and hast set her as

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a light to lighten the dark places of the earth, and to draw all men unto Thyself ; bless, we beseech Thee, this day, the Church Catholic spread abroad throughout the world. Sanctify and cleanse her by Thy word ; remove all needless divisions, and unite all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in the bonds of love and charity.

Bless, we pray Thee, the Church with which we are connected ; enlighten and direct her professors and ministers, her missionaries and students, her office-bearers and all her faithful people ; granting us grace to do Thy will, and to accomplish in this land the task with which Thou hast entrusted us.

Hear us as we intercede on behalf of this congregation, that Thou wouldst bless our fellow-members present and absent, the old and the young, the rich and the poor. Prosper our work amongst the children, bless each society and organization in our midst, and as often as we assemble ourselves together in Thy courts help us to render unto Thee acceptable and adoring worship.

Eternal God, Whose kingdom is from everlasting to everlasting, from Whom alone all power cometh, bless, we pray Thee, our native land, our King and Queen, and all the members of the Royal House ; give wisdom to His Majesty's counsellors ; direct the affairs of this empire ; bless every part of the public service, and may all who in any way serve the commonwealth do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with Thee, our God.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever.
Our Father . . .

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Almighty God, the Source of all goodness, the inexhaustible Spring from which all blessing flows, Who hast declared Thy love to us in Christ, and in countless gifts of grace, we enter into Thy presence with thanksgiving, and seek to glorify Thee with our praise. For all Thy works, the glories of earth and heaven, the wonders of Thy creation, and the constancy of Thy laws ; for seed-time and harvest ; for summer and winter ; and for the revelation of Thy love and care which shines through all,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For the gift of Thy Son ; for His loving words, and gracious deeds ; for His Cross and Passion ; for His heavenly exaltation and intercession ; for His revelation of Thee, and His gift of the Spirit,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For Thy holy Church ; for its sacred ordinances and solemn worship ; for hours of meditation and prayer ; for holy influences and gracious memories which bind us to spiritual things ; for Thy written truth and spoken word ; and for all ministries of love and mercy around us,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

For the sacred safeguards of home ; for its loving shelter and gracious influence ; for fatherhood and motherhood ; for the sweet faces of little children ; for all who are bound to us by family ties ; and for all whose hearts are knit to ours in affection and comradeship,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

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For all that we have learned of Thee ; for all victories we have gained over sin ; for power to love Thee and do Thy works ; and for the blessed hope of being united with Thee in loving service in the larger life beyond,

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

Receive our imperfect praise, we beseech Thee ; and though we cannot name Thy blessings or number them aright, although our gratitude and praise are alike unworthy, help us to declare both with our lips and in our lives our love to Thee, Who givest all.

☉ **GOD** Who dost desire us to offer prayers not only for ourselves, but for all men, hear us as we intercede at Thy Throne of Grace, and guide our hearts and lips.

For this world of Thy creation ; that Thou wouldst restore it in righteousness ; that Thou wouldst destroy all evil, and bring to nought the counsels of evil-doers ; and that Thou wouldst bind together all the nations of the earth in peace and concord,

We humbly beseech Thee,

For all Thy people of every race and every creed ; for all who seek Thee in sincerity, and worship Thee in truth ; for all who are groping toward the light ; and for all who in every land are witnesses to Thy power and glory,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O God.

For our beloved land ; for all our colonies and dependencies ; for all the people of this realm ; that Thou wouldst mercifully protect us in time of danger, and preserve us in the time of peace ; that Thou wouldst

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prosper our commerce, and every lawful industry ;
and that Thou wouldst give us as a people to do justly,
and love mercy, and walk humbly with our God,

Hear us, we beseech Thee.

For our King, and Queen ; for the members of the
Royal House ; for His Majesty's counsellors ; for
all who guide the destinies of this realm ; for all rulers
of other lands ; and for all who hold high office ; that
justice may be tempered with mercy, and that
righteousness may prevail in high places,

Hear us, good Lord.

For all our brethren of the people, high and low,
rich and poor together ; that Thou wouldst unite all
classes in the bonds of sympathy ; that Thou wouldst
cast out all hatreds of class or sect ; and that Thou
wouldst advance in all ways the good of this nation,
the well-being of the people, and the interests of true
religion,

Hear us, we beseech Thee.

For all who preach the gospel of Jesus Christ ; for all
missionaries and evangelists ; for all engaged in works
of benevolence ; and for all who work and pray for
others, and seek to hasten the coming of the King ;
that Thou wouldst hear their prayers, and mercifully
accept the work of their hands, and reward them with
Thy heavenly benediction,

We humbly pray.

For all in sorrow, that they may be comforted ; for
all in darkness, that they may receive the light of

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Christ ; for all sinful lives, that they may repent, and receive forgiveness ; for all weary, troubled, or burdened souls, that they may seek Thy help, and find Thy favour, hear us, O heavenly Father. And as it is Thy nature to save and not to destroy ; to comfort, and not to condemn ; let Thy Fatherly pity encompass these and all Thy children, for whom in our words, or in our hearts we pray ; so succour, relieve, and bless them, that out of all their trials they may be drawn back to Thee in wider knowledge, and in deeper faith ; Grant this, O Father of mercies, for the sake of Him Who has taught us thus to pray,

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

Intercession

Almighty God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in Whom the whole family in heaven and in earth is named ; unto Thee, most blessed and holy, we present our petitions, beseeching Thee to hear us, and to aid us by Thy divine Spirit.

We beseech Thee to remember Thy whole creation this day for good ; to fulfil thy purposes of love toward mankind ; to bless all peoples and tribes, together with their kings and rulers ; and to make Thy ways known, Thy saving health among all nations.

We beseech Thee to look favourably upon our native land, our colonies and dependencies ; to bless our King and Queen, and the members of the Royal House ; to grant Thy divine help to those who direct the affairs of the Empire ; and so to purify all our public life that as a people we may love justice, and hate iniquity, and walk humbly before Thee our God.

We beseech Thee to bless the city in which we dwell ; to let Thy fear rule in the deliberations of its magistrates and counsellors ; to encourage all efforts made for the prevention of disease, for the amelioration of suffering, and for the promotion of the health and happiness of the community ; and to bless all good men and women who labour unselfishly for the public good.

Intercession

We beseech Thee to bless our brethren of this realm ; to maintain in honour and integrity those engaged in its business and public affairs ; to defend with Thy help the poor and the defenceless, the downtrodden and oppressed ; to cast out of our midst every bitter wrong, and to bind us together in the bonds of Christian brotherhood.

Almighty God, Who willest all men to be saved, and brought to a knowledge of the truth,

We beseech Thee for Thy Holy Church throughout the world ; that Thou wouldest heal her divisions, and unite her children in the bonds of love and charity ; that Thou wouldest defend her from all worldliness and formality, from ungodly trust in riches, and from unspiritual methods and aims ; and that Thou wouldest give her an increasing trust in prayer and holiness.

We beseech Thee for all who serve Thee in Thy sanctuary, who preach Thy holy Gospel, and who are the stewards of the mysteries of Thy grace ; and for those who witness for Thee in heathen lands, and in the lonely places of the earth ; that Thou wouldest grant in mercy that their lives may commend the Lord Jesus, and that they may prove faithful witnesses to the things that are unseen and eternal.

We beseech Thee for this congregation worshipping Thee in this place ; for its minister, and office-bearers ; for those who teach the young ; and for its various societies and organizations ; that Thou wouldest give us joy in our service, and the aid of Thy Spirit in all our endeavours ; that Thou wouldest unite us together in all godly love and charity ; and that Thou wouldest

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use us for the glory of Thy Name, and for the extension of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Most pitiful Father, Who knowest the frailty of our frame, and how we are beset by weakness and fatigue, by bodily sickness and disease, we beseech Thee to let Thy compassion rest upon all who are worn in body or in mind ; upon all whose lot is hard, and whose recompense is small ; and in Thy mercy to grant relief to the sufferer in his long hours of pain, and peace to the dying in his mortal agony.

Finally, we beseech Thee to grant unto us, and to all men patience in tribulation, resignation in affliction, and perseverance in Thy service, that, when this life is happily ended, we may enjoy the felicity of Thy kingdom and, with all Thy pure saints, worship Thee in glory everlasting.

Glory be to the Father Who hath created us, and to the Son Who hath redeemed us, and to the Spirit Who hath sanctified us ; glory be to the supreme and undivided Trinity, one God, for ever and ever.

Our Father

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, Who hast commanded us in Thy Word to make supplication for all men, and to remember certain in especial before Thy throne of grace.

We beseech Thee for our sovereign lord the King, for the Queen, and all members of the Royal House, for the King's ministers and counsellors, for the Lords and the Commons, for the judges and magistrates of our land, for the [Lord] Mayor and Council of this city, and for all

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that are in authority over us ; that we, being wisely and righteously governed, may live godly lives to Thy praise and glory.

We beseech Thee for all our brethren of this people, high and low, rich and poor together ; that Thou wouldest prosper agriculture, manufacture, commerce and every lawful industry ; that Thou wouldest cleanse our national life from all great sins, filling our hearts with Thy love, and our homes with Thy peace.

We beseech Thee for all nations of the earth with their rulers ; that Thou wouldest make an end of all war, oppression, and cruelty ; establishing in every land the blessings of peace and good government.

We beseech Thee for Thy Church Catholic throughout the world ; that Thou wouldest baptize all Christian ministers with the Spirit of Thy dear Son, and quicken all disciples to follow in His footsteps ; that Thou wouldest further with Thy continual favour the work of the Church in this land, and in the distant places of the earth ; and that in the fulness of time Thou wouldest send again from heaven our Lord Jesus Christ.

We beseech Thee for the Church of our faith and baptism ; that Thou wouldest ever give the Spirit of Thy grace unto all her ministers, professors, students, and those called to Christian service ; that Thou wouldest deliver Thy servants from a lukewarm heart, and from the power of this present world, quickening them unto the sacrifice of the cross, and to every good and perfect work.

We beseech Thee for this congregation of Thy people ; for its minister, elders, and deacons ; for its homes and

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families ; for all meetings and societies in our midst ; that Thou wouldest grant the aid of Thy Holy Spirit upon all work done in Thy Name, and finally crown it with Thy blessing.

Eternal God, with Whom are the spirits of the just made perfect, we render Thee thanks for all those who, having served their generation according to Thy will, have departed in Thy fear, and in especial for those known to us who through faith and patience have inherited the promises, and are now with Thee in rest eternal.

Most pitiful Father, we beseech Thee for all those who are sick, for those in sorrow through recent bereavement or any other cause ; for those in peril by land or sea ; for those who have lost the kindly light of reason ; for those whose sorrows lie heavy on our hearts, and whose names we now mention unto Thee . . . that Thou wouldest be pleased in Thy Fatherly goodness to send them succour in all time of their need, and finally by Thy mercy to grant them deliverance out of all their afflictions.

Heavenly Father, by Whose mercy we have been spared to gather in this house of prayer, we entreat Thee to grant unto us the hearing ear and the understanding heart, that Thy preached word, being received in faith, may be as good seed in good ground, bringing forth fruit unto life everlasting.

Our Father . . .

(Dr. John Watson)

Intercession

Blessed Lord, we beseech Thee mercifully to accept the prayers we now present unto Thee, and grant Thy heavenly grace, that, asking in faith, we may, according to Thy promises, receive the things asked for, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord our God, we beseech Thee

That it may please Thee to bless the whole human family ; to give light to the peoples that are in darkness ; to lead all kings, princes and governors in the way of righteousness ; and to unite all nations in the bonds of peace and love ;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please Thee to bless our sovereign King George, and all the Royal Family, to rule in their hearts, and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom ;

We beseech . . .

[That it may please Thee to bless the High Court of Parliament at this time assembled, and to order all its doings to Thy glory, and to the welfare of mankind ;]

We beseech . . .

That it may please Thee to establish our national life in righteousness, to make us reverent in the use of freedom, just in the exercise of power, and generous in the protection of weakness ;

We beseech . . .

That it may please Thee to give, and to preserve to us, good laws and righteous magistrates, who shall administer justice wisely, and in the fear of God ;

We beseech . . .

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That it may please Thee to purify the commerce of our land, to save the people from indifference and self-indulgence, the greed of gold and the pursuit of vanity ; and to grant that drunkenness, impurity, and every form of evil may cease from among us ;

We beseech . . .

That it may please Thee to endue the thought and literature of our time with honesty, purity and reverence ;

We beseech . . .

Hear us, O Lord our God, as we pray

For those who preach the Gospel, for bishops, ministers, and teachers, and all who seek in any way to serve their fellowmen, and to extend Thy Kingdom ;

We beseech . . .

For the Church Universal, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led to a full understanding and practice of their holy faith

We beseech . . .

For our own Church, in all her provinces, that her light may shine forth as of old .

We beseech . . .

For the spread of Thy Kingdom, and the hastening of Thy return in glory ;

We beseech . . .

For the poor and ignorant, the weak and lonely, and such as are troubled in mind or conscience, that they may prove Thy grace sufficient in all their need ;

We beseech . . .

Intercession

For the aged and infirm, the sick, the suffering and the dying ; for such as are sad or desolate ; that they may find comfort and strength in God ;

We beseech . . .

For all fathers and mothers, that they may train their children according to Thy precepts ; for the young, that they may follow the example of our Lord Jesus ; and that the members of every household may live in unity, and serve one another in love ;

We beseech . . .

For the careless and unbelieving, the wilful and the depraved, that they may turn from their folly, and be delivered from the bonds of their iniquity ; and that all may know the love of God, and the power of Thy salvation ;

We beseech . . .

That it may please Thee to implant in our hearts such love toward Thee that we duly serve our fellowmen, and fail not in our duties to the lower creation ;

We beseech . . .

Finally we entreat Thee to accept the prayers of all who call upon Thee, and by Thy compassion to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(From Moravian Church Liturgy)

Intercessions

For Special Occasions

FOR UNITY

Almighty God, Who hast united us in the mystical Body of Thy Son, forgive us for our lack of charity one toward another, and for all the sins which have led to the many divisions and discords which rend Thy Holy Church ; Unite all those, we beseech Thee, who love Thee in sincerity, and as there is but one Spirit, and one Body, and one hope of our calling, so make us of one mind and one heart, that we may all come in the unity of the faith to the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

FOR MISSIONS

Most Blessed Saviour, Who didst commission Thy disciples to preach the gospel to every nation, prosper, we beseech Thee, all missions both at home and abroad, and especially the missions of our Church in . . . Enlighten the souls of those that are steeped in the darkness of heathenism, and replenish the hearts of Thy servants who work for their salvation ; enkindle in us, and in Thy Church, a zeal for Thy glory, and for the spread of Thy kingdom, and so help us to give of

Intercessions

our substance, that such as desire to labour for Thee may not be withheld, and such as already labour may be encouraged and blessed.

FOR PEACE

Most Gracious Father, Who didst send into the world Thy Holy Son Jesus as the King of Love, and the very Prince of Peace, subdue the evil passions which arise in our hearts, and which incite us to strife and war ; bring into the world the blessed reign of peace, and hasten, in Thy mercy, the coming of that day, prophesied of old, when men shall beat their swords into plough-shares, their spears into pruning hooks, and shall learn the art of war no more.

THE SECOND ADVENT

Most Blessed Saviour, Who wilt come again in power and great glory to judge the quick and the dead ; help us so to watch that when Thou comest we may not be found sleeping, so to work that Thy glorious advent may be hastened, and so to pray that when Thou appearest we may be received of Thee, and enter with Thee into that felicity which is never-ending.

FOR THE KING

Almighty God, Who hast taught us in Thy Word that the hearts of kings are in Thy governance, we humbly beseech Thee so to dispose and govern the heart of Thy servant our King, that, in all his thoughts, words, and works, he may seek Thy honour and glory, and study

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to preserve in all peace and godliness the good of the people committed to his charge. Grant this, we beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake.

FOR THE NATION

Almighty God, we pray Thee to cleanse the public and private life of our nation from all unholy lusts ; purge us from the sins of intemperance and gambling, of impurity and worldliness ; subdue in us all unhallowed love of wealth and luxury ; and so purify the hearts of the people of this realm that we may be fitted to be used of Thee for the extension of Thy kingdom, and for the uplifting of all depressed and down-trodden peoples.

FOR RULERS

Heavenly Father, we bend the knee before Thee on behalf of all kings, princes, and governors of this world ; beseeching Thee to grant unto them by Thy inspiration to rule in righteousness, to rejoice in peace, to shine in piety, and to labour for the well-being of the people committed unto them, so that, by the rectitude of their government, all faithful people may be able to live without disturbance in the enjoyment of peace and justice, and in the promotion of Thy kingdom.

FOR PARLIAMENT

Almighty God, Whose Spirit alone can wisely direct the counsels of men, bless, we beseech Thee, the High Court of Parliament now assembled. Give unto those who frame the laws of the realm to look

Intercessions

unto Thee for guidance ; overrule their deliberations for the good of the people, and so direct their counsels in righteousness that Thy kingdom may be advanced, and Thy will obeyed.

FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY

Most Sovereign Lord and gracious Redeemer, bless, we beseech Thee, the Army and Navy ; defend our soldiers and sailors in the hour of danger ; protect them from the temptations to which they are exposed ; minister unto their spiritual needs when duty hinders them from enjoying the means of grace, and so endow them with spiritual courage that in the midst of temporal duties they may not neglect the things that are eternal.

FOR DOCTORS AND NURSES

☉ **God**, Whose pitiful eye beholdeth our many infirmities, bless, we beseech Thee, all doctors and nurses, all who battle with disease, who tend the sick, and who in any way seek to lighten the load of human suffering ; give them sympathy with their patients, wisdom and skill in devising means for their relief, and hearts that readily turn to Thee for help ; and when by their duties they are withheld from the worship of Thy House, help them to unite in spirit with all Thy saints to the glory of Thy Holy Name.

FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to let Thy blessing rest upon all Universities, all Schools and Colleges, upon all centres of sacred and profane learning ;

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may those who teach be instructed of Thee, and those who are taught receive not only that knowledge which is necessary for their future calling, but also that spiritual illumination which alone can make wise unto salvation.

FOR THE SICK

☉ **God**, Who art our only refuge in time of trouble, remember, in mercy we beseech Thee, all who are sick, and in especial thy servant for whom now we offer our supplications. Grant unto *him* a speedy recovery if it be Thy Holy will, and in the midst of *his* weakness visit *him* with Thy divine Power, so that *he*, realizing Thy strength, may lean upon Thee, and find comfort both for soul and body.

FOR THE BEREAVED

Almighty God, in Whom we live, and move, and have our being, visit in Thy Fatherly mercy those who mourn, and comfort all sorrowing and bereaved hearts ; grant unto them Thy heavenly consolations, that in the remembrance of Christ's victory over death they may have peace, and in the knowledge of His victorious life may both rest in hope and wait in patience, until Thy blessed purposes in them and us are perfectly fulfilled.

SUMMARIES

Confession

SINS OF DAILY LIFE

Love of self ; of ease ; of money ; of display.

Absorption in the world ; in business ; in pleasure.

Indifference to spiritual things ; neglect of duty ;
blindness to the unseen.

SINS AGAINST OUR FELLOWMEN

Unkindness in judgment ; lack of courtesy and forbearance.

Selfishness and hardness of heart toward the needs of others ; lack of sympathy with their sorrows and losses.

Neglect of the poor, the weak, and the erring.

SINS AGAINST GOD

Unthankfulness for daily mercies ; unfaithfulness in duty, and constant forgetfulness.

Neglect of prayer ; indifference in worship ; want of love and zeal for spiritual things.

Impatience under correction ; fretfulness under trials ; insincerity in service.

Secret love of sin, and want of faith and perseverance.

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SINS OF IMAGINATION

Impure thoughts and sensual imaginations unre-sisted ; sins imagined and secretly if not openly committed ; soul corrupted through licence and lack of watchfulness.

SINS OF WILL

Rebellion against divine will and commandment ; refusal to submit to divine control ; love of self-will ; choosing our own path ; wilful straying from the fold, and refusing to return.

SINS OF MIND

Trust in our own wisdom ; our vanity, pride, boastfulness ; impatience, intolerance, lack of consideration for the opinions of others ; lack of meekness and humility.

SINS OF HEART

The hardness of our hearts ; want of love, of compassion towards others ; selfish absorption in ourselves which makes us callous ; heart uninhabited by Christ.

SINS OF THOUGHT

Want of thoughtfulness toward the weak, the suffering, and the needy.

Quenching of thoughts of kindness and forbearance.

Harbouring evil, envious, unholy thoughts.

SINS OF SPEECH

Insincerity ; saying " Peace ! peace !" where there is no peace ; flattering the rich and powerful.

Summaries

Indulging in vain, frivolous and empty conversation ;
in coarse, immodest, or evilly suggestive language.

Insincerity in prayer ; making request for things
we do not desire or expect ; using the language of
devotion without the spirit.

Bearing false witness against our neighbour ; uttering
hot, passionate, and unkind words when we ought
to have remained silent ; remaining silent when we
ought to have spoken.

SINS OF BEHAVIOUR

Our betrayal of Christ through the worldliness of
our lives ; through our frivolous and unseemly
behaviour ; through the support our words and
deeds have given to the careless and sinful.

Our impatience in times of sickness, pain or loss ;
our indolence and evil temper ; our worldly dis-
content at the success of others ; our acts of
dishonesty and deceitfulness in business, and in
our relations to our fellowmen.

Our delight in vain and worldly display ; our brooding
care over what we shall eat, and drink, and what
we shall put on.

SINS OF THE INDIVIDUAL

The sins and faults of youth ; sins of maturer years ;
our evil past which rises up against us ; our forgotten
vows and neglected opportunities ; the sorrows
which have brought no repentance, and the heavenly
pleadings which we have disregarded ; the things
left undone, and those which we ought not to have

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done ; the sins and weakness which mar our best moments, so that even when we would do good, evil is present with us.

SINS OF THE CONGREGATION

The poverty, languidness, and frequent irreverence of our worship ; the worldly thoughts and business cares which we allow to distract our minds ; the coldness of our praises, and the feebleness of our prayers ; our unwillingness to part with our possessions for the extension of Christ's kingdom ; our indifference toward the sinful without, and the lost and erring around our doors.

SINS OF THE NATION

Our love of wealth, and greedy pursuit of material prosperity ; the pride and haughtiness which we show toward other peoples ; our increasing love of luxury and display in our public life ; the decline of worship, the public neglect of the Day of Rest, and the forsaking of the old ways in which our fathers trod ; our indifference toward social wrong and injustice, and our neglect of the poor, the suffering, and the weak.

Petition

FOR REPENTANCE

Grace to turn from sin ; to break with evil connections ; to grieve over past misdeeds ; to turn wholly to God ; to possess a contrite heart.

Summaries

FOR FORGIVENESS

For all sins, known and unknown ; for omissions of duty ; for every unkind word, evil thought or imagination ; for every sinful deed, for everything in past conduct which has merited judgment.

FOR CLEANSING

From the stains and impurities wrought in us by sin and the world ; cleansing of the conscience ; of the mind ; of the heart ; of the will ; cleansing of the eyes, the hands, the lips.

FOR RENEWAL

In faith and love ; brought back to sense of divine favour ; strengthened with might to withstand temptation ; reassured of Christ's presence, protection, love.

FOR CONSECRATION

Of body, soul, and spirit ; of mind, heart and will ; of gifts, talents and possessions.

FOR PROTECTION

In time of temptation, trial of faith, spiritual weakness ; in time of sickness, sorrow, affliction ; in time of worldly loss, discouragement, disappointment ; in time of doubt, difficulty, and perplexity.

FOR GRACE

To forgive ; to possess the soul in patience ; to maintain peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost ; assurance unto the end ; to witness a good confession ; to persevere unto the end.

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FOR TRUST

In darkness, suffering, sorrow, loss, bereavement, death ; when hope burns low ; when the shadows fall around us ; when the path of duty is obscured ; when we feel forsaken and alone ; when overwhelmed by a sense of the loneliness and mystery of life ; when afraid of the unknown to-morrow.

FOR COURAGE

To follow in the footsteps of Christ ; to bear His Cross, and do His will ; to testify our allegiance to Him before the world with boldness ; to willingly sacrifice for His sake ; to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

FOR CHRIST-LIKENESS

To live in communion with Him and to delight in His commandments ; to know the secret of His presence, the benignity of His rule, the consolation of His Word, the fellowship of His Cross ; to possess His enthusiasm for humanity, His pity for the sinners, His sorrow for the lost, His triumphant faith, His perfect self-surrender.

FOR DELIVERANCE

From vain imaginings ; foolish repinings ; needless care ; vain regrets ; embittered speech ; love of coarse enjoyments ; the scornful spirit ; compromising with sin ; ingratitude, and distrust of the divine love.

Summaries

FOR PRESERVATION

From pride ; self-love ; vainglory ; obstinacy ; disobedience ; gluttony ; sloth ; indevotion ; malice ; envy ; hatred ; disdain ; despising those beneath us ; flattering the rich and powerful ; enslavement to appetite and passion.

Thanksgiving

FOR DAILY MERCIES

Food ; raiment ; comforts and protection of home ; health of body and mind ; strength to labour ; life's daily tasks and opportunities ; love which shields and supports us.

FOR OUR EDUCATION

Friends, teachers and instructors of youth ; example of those around us ; education and inspiration which come from past history, literature, art and daily activities ; life's disciplines and experiences ; trials which train us in patience, humility, and in fortitude ; sacred ties which bind us to the Unseen.

FOR THE WORLD

Its beauty and order ; its revelation of the divine mind and purposes ; its revelation of goodness, and provision for the wants of creation ; its revelation of the divine glory and power.

FOR OUR COUNTRY

Its history and traditions ; its civil and religious freedom ; its justice and good government ; the

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growth of charity, consideration for the wants of the weak and poor, and national responsibility.

FOR SPIRITUAL MERCIES

Day of rest—its opportunities, associations, and obligations.

House of God—its ministry and sacraments ; sacred ties and holy worship.

Gift of Christ—His Incarnation, Ministry, Atonement, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Intercession.

Holy Spirit—guidance of His Church and people ; revelation of truth ; inspiration for holy conduct.

Holy Word—its revelation of divine purposes ; its inspiration and promises.

Saints and teachers ; prophets and evangelists ; all who serve in faithfulness.

Opportunities by which we grow in grace, glorify God, and serve others.

Blessed hope of Immortality brought to light through the Gospel.

Intercession

FOR NATIVE LAND

King and Queen ; Members of Royal House ; His Majesty's Ministers and Counsellors ; both Houses of Parliament ; Army and Navy, and all engaged in service of the Commonwealth ; Judges and Magistrates ; all who occupy places of trust and responsibility.

Summaries

FOR OTHER NATIONS

Kings and rulers, together with peoples under their sway ; the growth in the world of freedom, justice and good government ; the overthrow of tyranny and oppression ; the spread of the spirit of love and brotherhood ; the hastening of the reign of the Prince of Peace.

FOR CITY

City, Town, Parish, or district ; the Lord Mayor, Mayor (or Provost), Council ; magistrates and public men ; its public institutions and benefactions ; its efforts to improve the health, happiness, and comfort of inhabitants.

FOR DIFFERENT CLASSES

1. The poor. Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Homeless. Those working under hard, depressing, monotonous, dangerous or unremunerative conditions ; those suffering through unjust social or economic laws ; those who are physically or mentally unfitted for engaging in life's battle ; those who are depressed, or worn-out, or dispirited.
2. The rich. That they may be good stewards of God's bounty ; defended from pride, selfishness, vain display, love of luxury, hardening which comes from success ; that they may maintain a lowly and obedient heart.
3. Those engaged in commerce. That prosperity may be granted to all engaged in business and various industries ; that masters may be considerate ;

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and those who serve, dutiful ; that divisions between class and class may be healed ; that all engaged in business may be men of integrity, rectitude, and known for their fair dealing.

4. The unfortunate. Those losing heart ; those crushed down by debt, by loss, by failure of their hopes ; those embittered by adversity ; those becoming hard and defiant because of prosperity of others ; those who have found life a disappointment, and the multitude of the miserable around our doors.
5. The afflicted. Those who are suffering ; the afflicted in mind or body ; the inmates of our work-houses, hospitals, or kindred institutions ; the blind, deaf, and those who have lost their reason ; the aged, and infirm ; those who tend them, doctors, nurses, and all engaged in alleviating human distress ; those who mourn ; those drawing near to death, and those in bondage to its fear.
6. The Weak and Erring. Those grievously tempted ; those who have gone astray—the prodigal, criminal, abandoned ; those who neglect the means of grace—the worldly, careless, indifferent ; those in doubt and spiritual perplexity ; those hindered through circumstances, weakness of faith, or lack of courage ; those who have fallen back into the world ; those who have not the courage of their best convictions ; those who are growing blinded to spiritual realities ; those growing old in sin who are without God and without hope in the world.

Summaries

FOR THE CHURCH

Church Catholic : Ministers, Teachers, Missionaries, Evangelists, all engaged in her service ; for spread of Gospel in heathen lands ; for missions and native Christians ; for Church with which we are connected ; for congregation, its minister, office-bearers, members ; for all its societies, its work, and interests. For the coming of Christ in great power.

FOR HOME

Parents, and children ; those in colonies or distant lands ; those who have gone out into the world ; those at school ; the lambs of the flock ; any in sickness, trouble, anxiety.

Illumination

Let Thy Holy Spirit illumine the sacred page, O God, we humbly beseech Thee, and as we read and expound Thy Holy Word, may our minds be opened to receive it ; and our hearts taught to love it ; and our wills strengthened to obey it ; and this we humbly seek through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Instruct us, O God, in Thy Truth, and prepare us to receive it ; take from our minds all pride of intellect, and from our hearts all coldness and indifference, and so shine upon us with Thy heavenly Light that we, forsaking our sins, may yield ourselves anew to Thee, and ever live godly and obedient lives to Thine honour and glory.

Almighty God, Who dost call husbandmen to labour in Thy vineyard, and to sow the seed of Thy Word, grant unto us the good husbandry of the heart, that Thy seed, being sown, may be quickened and nourished by Thy Holy Spirit, and grow up within us unto everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

○ **God**, Who to all weary and perplexed souls hast revealed Thyself in Thy Son as the Way, the Truth, and the Life ; teach us, enlighten us, guide us ; and, as with

Illumination

humble hearts we seek Thee, grant that beyond all our faithless expectations and weak desires we may truly find Thee, and, being thus enriched, may continue in Thy loving favour unto our life's end, through the merciful favour of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Ⲁ **God**, Who hast spoken to men of old through Apostles and Prophets, and in these latter days through Thy Son, dispose now our minds and hearts, we beseech Thee, that we may joyfully hear, worthily declare, and heartily receive His holy Gospel, that the fruit may be unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

Enlighten our minds and hearts, O God, we humbly beseech Thee, and prepare us to receive Thy Holy Truth ; grant us to know Thee in Thy Son and through Thy Spirit, and help us to obey Thy commandments ; that, having passed our days in Thy fear, we may end them in Thy favour, and rejoice with Thee for ever in Thy Heavenly Kingdom.

Ⲁ **Lord and Lover of men**, illumine, we beseech Thee, our hearts with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our understanding that we may comprehend the precepts of Thy gospel. Implant in us likewise the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that we, trampling upon all fleshy lusts, may attain the joy of heavenly life, both thinking and doing such things as shall well please Thee.

(Liturgy of Graeco-Russian Church)

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Ⲁ Ⲅⲟⲃ of knowledge and Giver of wisdom, Who bringest to light the hidden things of darkness, and givest the Word unto them that preach the Gospel; graciously grant unto us, and unto all people, a mind without wandering, and a clear understanding, that we may learn and understand how profitable are Thy holy teachings, and so make us to be like unto Him Whom Thou didst send in deed and in doctrine, that we may glorify Thy Holy Name. (*Coptic*)

Collect after Offertory

Accept these our offerings, O God, we beseech Thee, which now we seek to dedicate to the service of Thy Holy Church, and grant us ever to have grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Heavenly Father, Who hast given us all things richly to enjoy, graciously deign to receive these our gifts which now we lay upon Thine altar, and bless us both in the use and the giving of Thy mercies, for Jesus' sake.

O God, Who dost teach us by this act of worship that it is more blessed to give than to receive, graciously accept these our offerings and give us the right spirit both in giving and receiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Receive, O God, we beseech Thee, for the service of Thy Holy Church, these our offerings, which by Thy bounty we are enabled to offer, and grant that in our giving we may give joyfully with the heart, acknowledging in all things Thy Fatherly goodness. Grant this for Jesus' sake.

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○ God, to Whom we cannot render anything which belongeth not unto Thee, accept these our offerings which with grateful hearts we seek to dedicate to Thy holy service, and teach us in all things to show the spirit of true liberality, for Jesus' sake.

Receive, ○ Lord, we pray Thee, these our offerings which we render for the service of Thy Church, and for the extension of Thy Kingdom, and accept with them our hearts and lives which we desire to consecrate anew to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, to Whom all things belong, but Who deignest to accept from us those mercies which Thou Thyself hast bestowed, accept these our offerings, the gifts of the rich and the poor alike, and so consecrate them that Thy Kingdom may be advanced, and Thy Name glorified, and this we humbly beg through our only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

General Prayers

(Suitable for Evening Worship)

I

Father in Heaven, into knowledge of Whom we enter through prayer and patient well-doing, help us while we pray to forget the things of the world, that we may wholly turn unto Thee.

We come to Thee in the multitude of Thy tender mercies, bringing our glad offering of praise for all Thy goodness. We thank Thee for this unwearied patience with us in our sinful days, for reclaiming us from our vain and foolish courses, and, now, for all aspirations after a better life, and for every uplifting thought which makes life more noble and attractive. Increase within us, we beseech Thee, the desire to prove ourselves more worthy of Thy love. Lift us into sympathy with all in life that is good and true, and with everything that is noble in the world. Help us to live the life of Him Whose joy it was to give Himself for men, and Whose meat it was to do His Father's will.

Creator of our spirits, infinite in pity and in love, we come to Thee in the multitude of our transgressions, imploring forgiveness for all our sins. When we lift our lives against the awful purity of Thine we are afraid; we are consumed by a sense of our guilt, we are smitten by a knowledge of our iniquities. Yet we bless Thee that Thou dost call us to turn our eyes to the Cross, and there,

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as we look, we behold the majesty of Thy forgiveness, the largeness of Thy love, and Thy boundless pity for sinners. We come, then, by the way of Calvary to Thee ; in the shelter of the Cross we kneel ; in the name of Christ we present our petitions, confident that Thou wilt not turn any of us away who in penitence entreat Thy mercy.

Heavenly Father, we come to Thee now with the multitude of our needs ; Thou art our Father, and we are Thy children. From Thy hand all things come, and we turn to Thee greatly needing Thy blessing and Thy comforts. We come to Thee as sick to a Physician, as sheep to a Shepherd, as weary to a Friend. Tired of our wanderings, longing for rest, hungry and thirsty, we come to Thee. We bow our hearts before Thee. Lift us closer to Thyself, most gracious, most loving Father. Out of Thy fulness replenish our empty lives. Teach us some new lesson of Thy Providence ; reveal to us some fresh source of hope and consolation ; confirm our feeble faith ; lift up our feeble hands ; and send us away this night with a new song in our hearts, with a larger and clearer knowledge of Thee, with a renewed will, and with a faith that nothing can shake. Bless all the people now bowed before Thee ; satisfy every right want ; brighten every troubled heart ; cheer those who are lonely, and lift every eye to behold in Thee the answer of every need. Be with all our absent members, especially any known to us in sickness or in trouble. Keep all our loved ones in Thy safe keeping, and unite us all at last in Thy Heavenly Kingdom. Our Father . . .

General Prayers

Almighty God, our Creator and Preserver, and in every time of need our Refuge and our Strength, help us, as the day declines and the evening shadows fall, to turn to Thee, Who in Jesus Christ hast made known to us the exceeding riches of Thy Grace.

We thank Thee, Heavenly Father, for this hour of solemn worship. Here, in the silence of Thy House, we may call upon Thee, and find Thee near. Here, in the sacred hour of fellowship we may hide ourselves from the world, and hold converse with our God. Let Thy presence be felt among us, O God, most Gracious. With the eye of faith give us to behold Thee, and in our inmost hearts to receive Thee. And to this end take away our sins, and the blindness our sin creates. Break all the hardening influences which deaden us to spiritual things, and make our hearts sensitive to Thy touch.

Most pitiful Father, we are conscious that we come to Thee this night with nothing in ourselves to commend us to Thy divine clemency. As we stand in the light of Thy most holy presence we realize how unworthily we have lived ; how feeble and faint-hearted have been our efforts to please Thee, and how ill we have requited Thy love and tenderness toward us. We have said "Peace ! peace !" when there was no peace ; we have permitted evil imaginations to increase their hold upon us ; we have increased the weakness of our wills through indulgence, and in countless ways have grieved Thy most Fatherly heart. O God, though we do not merit the least of Thy mercies, and are worthy only of the greatest of Thy judgments, yet in mercy receive our

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petitions, that we, who are bound by the chains of our sins, may by Thy clemency be released, and be restored to purity, and to Thy divine favour.

Most gracious God, Who art the helper of the helpless, and the protector of the weak, we bear in tender remembrance before Thee all weary, tempted, and troubled hearts ; all who have brought into Thy house any hidden sorrow, or secret shame ; all who are pressed down by worldly care, by sinful doubt, or discontent ; and all who are finding the way of life lonely and hard. To Thy loving sympathy we commend these, our brethren, beseeching Thee of Thy mercy to succour and relieve them, and to draw them unto Thyself in Whom alone is there true rest and gladness.

Heavenly Father, bless this night the homes of Thy people. Give comfort to the afflicted ones ; soothe the sufferer ; comfort all aged folk, and protect little children ; be near unto the dying, and take the last terror from their hearts. We commend ourselves and all our loved ones to Thee, for in Thee alone is our safety. Thou, Who hast promised to be our Guide, wilt never leave us nor forsake us, but wilt be our Strength and Stay even unto death. In this confidence we would go forth cheerfully to our duties, and to whatsoever in our lives Thou dost appoint, knowing that all things will work together for good to them that love Thee, and that nothing can ever pluck us out of Thy hand.

Now unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father ; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

General Prayers

☉ **GOD**, our Light by day, and our Rest by night, unto Thee we turn as children unto a Father, as sinful unto a Saviour, as homeless unto a Home. At thy gate, O Lord, we thy weak and wayward children knock ; from Thy treasure-house do we ask for mercies. Cast us not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us. Create within us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Though we be not worthy to lift up even our eyes unto Thee, yet receive us who, as suppliants, present ourselves at Thy mercy seat.

O God, we bless Thee that Thou hast not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities ; that, though we have constantly forgotten Thee, Thou hast not left us to perish, but with infinite patience hast held the door of salvation open for our return. Help those in Thy house who have strayed from Thee, in penitence to come back. Arrest those whose hearts delight in sin, and who are yielding themselves to unrighteousness ; help us each one to fly for refuge to the Cross, and there, casting down our load, may we find pardon and peace.

Most blessed God, by Whose Spirit alone we can renounce the hidden things of darkness, and cleave to that which is good, let the power which cometh from above descend upon us, and fill all our hearts. In the glow of worship we feel Thee near, but amid the enticements of the world we forget our vows, and in the hour of trial we are faithless and unbelieving. Help us now to surrender ourselves to Thee, and to separate ourselves from everything that would hinder our growth in grace.

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Send us back to the world no longer with divided heart, but strengthened with all might through Christ dwelling within us.

Heavenly Father, let Thy great pity now descend upon the world. Fill the hearts of men with love and gentleness; save and succour the weak and the poor; defend and protect the lives of little children; prosper every good work, and bless every kind heart. Let the spirit of love and sacrifice come more and more into our lives, to win us to lowly ways, and gentle deeds, and purer thoughts. Fill Thy Church now with Thy presence; may every heart feel the glow of spiritual things, the deep delight of worship, the uprush of the soul to Thee in Whom alone is pure delight and unclouded joy.

O King of peace, our Lord Jesus Christ, bring peace upon the earth, give peace unto our hearts, make the way of life to be peace for us, and let the peace of God which passeth all understanding continually guard and preserve us, and all whom we love, both now and evermore. Our Father . . .

☉ **God**, the Father of all mankind, Who hast chosen as Thy dwelling-place the hearts that are humble and contrite, Whose secret is with them that fear Thee; bend Thine ear to the supplications of Thy children, we beseech Thee, and guide our hearts and lips by Thy Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, Whose mercies no man can number, and Whose ways are justice and truth, we bless Thee for Thy gracious benefits toward us. Though we are



General Prayers

not worthy of the least of Thy mercies, Thou hast yet crowned us with Thy loving-kindness. Thou hast led us by a way we knew not of. Day by day Thy Hand has ministered unto our needs, and has shielded us from danger. Thou hast preserved our lives in the midst of death, and hast supported us in the midst of trouble. For Thy merciful kindness which has been great toward us, for Thy judgments which have been as the great mountains, and for Thy justice which has been as the great floods, we would lift up our hearts to Thee in homage and praise. Accept, we beseech Thee, our imperfect offering ; remember not against us our forgetfulness of Thee in past days ; fill us with a new affection for holy things, and renew our hearts in love and devotion.

Most gracious God, bestow upon us, and upon all Thy people, we entreat Thee, power to withstand temptation, and all those benefits necessary for our salvation, for our growth in grace, and for our final perseverance. Forgive us for our secret sins, our delight in the world, and our weak resistance to temptation. Abandon us not to our own evil desires ; curb our wills ; restrain our passions, and so guide us through the perils of this life by Thy safe conduct, that we may attain unto that life which is everlasting.

Most merciful God, we commend to Thy Fatherly care all our brethren of this congregation. Be with those who are withheld from the worship of Thy House by sickness or affliction, by home ties or by necessary duties, and accept for their spiritual good these intercessions which we make on their behalf. Bless, we pray Thee, those in

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our homes, who are too old to come to Thy sanctuary, and those who are too young; bless all dear to our hearts; fill our homes with peace and kindness, unite us together in sympathy and mutual helpfulness, and in forbearing love help us to serve one another.

Hear us, O God, as we pray for Thy blessing to rest upon all the work of Thy Church in this place. Make our worship spiritual and devout; make Thy sanctuary unto us a place of peace and a blessed refuge from the world's cares and unrest; here may our souls be nourished, our faith confirmed, and our lives restored in gladness; may all our work for Thee in this place be begun in faith, continued in prayer, and obtain the blessing of Thy divine favour.

Hear us when we pray for the city in which we live, for the country to which we belong, and for all Thy children the world over. Cast out from the world all bitter wrongs, all cruel oppressions, all bitterness of class and creed, and bring in the blessed reign of peace and goodwill.

Finally, we beseech Thee to grant unto us that when this life, being usefully spent, is ended, we may have an inheritance amongst the saints, and a share in that eternal felicity which the blessed enjoy who worship Thee in Thy glorious kingdom. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Our Father . . .

[O God, the Father of Lights, from Whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, we bring to Thee the

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offering of our praise and prayer in return for all the mercies of this day. We bless Thee for the gift of life, and for all those things which make it beautiful and good ; and we praise Thee for health of body, and soundness of mind ; for protection from harm ; for strength for toil ; for food and raiment, and the comforts of a home ; for the parents and teachers and benefactors of bygone days ; for faithful servants ; for kind neighbours and loving friends, and for all those who, by word or deed, help us to bear the burden of life, and cheer us on our heavenward way. Above all, we thank Thee for the knowledge of our redemption through Jesus Christ our Lord ; for the presence in our hearts of His Holy Spirit ; for the assurance of succour and support amid the trial of this life, and for the hope of a blessed immortality in the world to come. *we thank thee for the*

We desire, O Lord, with humble hearts to acknowledge Thy great pitifulness and patient forbearance towards us, who so often and so deeply offend Thee, by the wilfulness and waywardness of our thoughts, words and deeds. Each day of our life we grieve Thee far more than we can know or understand, by our want of thought and lack of love ; by the misuse of mercies, and forgetfulness of the Giver ; by anxious cares, and needless fears ; or ~~by foolish repining, and~~ thankless discontent ; by excessive engrossment in earthly concerns ; by unworthy thoughts, and forbidden acts, and by countless failures of faith and love toward God and man. We crave forgiveness, and pray for grace that we may prove our penitence, and show forth our gratitude, by greater goodness to our fellow-men, a more constant remem-

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brance of Christ our Master, and a closer walk with God.

We beseech Thee, O God, for all the sinful and sorrowing sons of men in their manifold troubles and temptations, and for all good men and women who are striving to alleviate their sorrows, and save them from their sins. We pray with compassion for the sick ; the poor, and the homeless ; the widow and the orphan ; the outcast and the fallen ; the tempted, careworn and despairing ; the weary, lonely, and bereaved. We pray for the ~~downtrodden and enslaved~~ ; for the wronged and oppressed ; for those who wander in the darkness of heathendom, and for all who with breaking hearts grope vainly amid doubt and error for the light of God's love that shines for us all from the face of Jesus Christ.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably, we beseech Thee, on the whole Church of Christ, set as a light from heaven in this dark world of ours, ~~and by the tranquil operation of Thy perpetual Providence carry out the work of man's salvation~~, and let the whole world feel and see that things which were cast down are being raised again, and things which had grown old are being made new, and all things are returning to perfection through Him from Whom they took their origin, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Heavenly Father, Who slumberest not nor sleepest, we commend to Thy gracious care and keeping, ourselves, and all that belong to us. We thank Thee for the bright and busy light of day, and now for the softened shadows of the restful night. Lift from our minds the burden of

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our wakeful hours ; visit our bodies with refreshing sleep ; through the darkness keep us safe, and wake us to meet to-morrow's duties with strength of body and vigour of mind, with peace in our spirits, and courage in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(*Professor Elmslie*)

Let us pray that the Lord will keep us safe and wake us to meet to-morrow's duties with strength of body and vigour of mind, with peace in our spirits, and courage in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

II

Thanksgiving, Confession, and Petition

(Suitable for Evening Worship)

Father in Heaven, Whose mercies fail not, we come to Thee with praise on our lips, and with thankfulness in our hearts.

We thank Thee for this Holy Day ; for the peace of worship ; for the joy of communion ; for liberty of access to Thy Throne of Grace, and for all the blessings bestowed upon us in Jesus Christ.

We thank Thee that Thou art not far from any one of us ; that our faintest sigh is heard of Thee ; that, though we cannot behold Thee with the outward eye, we may commune with Thee in spirit, and see Thee with the eye of faith.

We thank Thee for all things bright and beautiful around us ; for the face of Nature, and the sweet faces of those we love ; for holy memories of loved ones in Thy safe keeping ; and for the great and good, who, having lived in Thy fear, have entered into rest.

We thank Thee for the great and good still with us ; for those whose example inspires us with pure desires and worthy ambitions ; and we bless Thee for all the silent workers who, in quiet homes, and in silent ways, do Thy will, and bring Thy kingdom into the hearts of men.

We thank Thee for the faith we have, and for the mercies Thou hast still in store for us ; and we beseech Thee that Thou wouldst continue Thy work of grace

Thanksgiving, Confession and Petition

in our hearts, supplying all our needs in Christ Jesus, and working in us, both to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Most Holy Father, forgive for Thy rich mercy's sake the many sins which stain our past lives. Remember not against us in anger our fitful service, our secret insincerities, our earthliness of mind, and our foolish and unfaithful lives. Give unto each one of us now bent before Thee grace whereby truly to repent, and to our penitence add faith, that from the grave of our dead selves we may be enabled to rise to higher things.

Most Blessed Saviour, Who for our sakes didst become poor, enrich our lives by helping us to live them in daily contact with Thee. May Thy Spirit become ours ; in Thy strength may we do our work, and live our lives, and gain the victory. As often as our sins rise up against us to condemn us may the remembrance of Thy Cross inspire us, and the remembrance of Thy mercy restore our confidence.

Most Holy Spirit, without Whose sustaining grace all human effort is unavailing, breathe upon these lukewarm hearts of ours and make them glow with love divine ; confirm our feeble faith ; strengthen our weak wills ; awaken within each one of us the desire to do the will of God, and consecrate us to the service of our fellow men.

Glory be to the Father . . .

Father in Heaven, Who dost show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night ; Who crownest us with Thy goodness, and

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satisfiest us with the blessings of Thy Providence, accept our sacrifice of thanksgiving which now with grateful hearts we render unto Thee.

We thank Thee for the love which gladdens our hearts and homes, which unites us to one another, which ennobles life with its sympathy and unselfishness, and teaches us of the love which comes down from Heaven, and which shines for us in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.

We thank Thee for the faith without which it is impossible to please Thee; which is to us the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen; by which we are enabled to overcome the world, to resist the power of the evil one, and to walk in the security of Thy love.

~~We thank Thee~~ for the peace which passeth understanding; which stills the restlessness of our souls; which speaks in a still small voice, and quietens us; and gives us spiritual recovery, and tranquil hearts, and opens to our vision that land of rest for which we long.

~~We thank Thee~~ for the charity that never fails; that suffereth long and is kind; that beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things; and that, amidst all changing things, abideth for ever.

We thank Thee for the light which lightens the path of daily duty; which illumines the restless sea of our lives; which cheers us when we are faint-hearted, and encourages us when we are depressed; and which draws us to Christ Whose Light is the Life of men.

We thank Thee for the life which cannot taste of

Thanksgiving, Confession and Petition

death ; which cometh down to us from above ; which grows in us through every act of patience, and every victory over sin ; which is the promise to our souls of that citizenship which is in Heaven, and of that Life which is everlasting.

Most merciful God, Who hast made us heirs in Christ of these earthly blessings and heavenly mysteries, we confess our unworthiness of the least of them. We have ill requited Thy love, for we have broken Thy commandments, and heedlessly and impenitently have sinned against Thee in thought and word and deed. Repel us not who as suppliants present ourselves at Thy mercy seat ; mercifully appease Thy most just wrath against us ; for the glory of Thy Name blot out our transgressions, and remember them against us no more.

O God, the Son, Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world ; take away our sins ; wash us in Thy most precious blood ; turn the eyes of Thy mercy toward us ; make us pure and spotless ; and so perfect us in repentance, that we shall no more grieve Thy most compassionate heart, but evermore serve Thee with a pure conscience, and walk with Thee in newness of life.

O God, the Spirit, Who quickenest the souls that are dead in sin by Thy living breath ; breathe upon our souls the breath of Life ; send down upon us the rich blessings which come from Thee ; sanctify our souls, and bodies, and spirits, that from our lips there may ever ascend rich praises and worthy adorations.

O Holy and ever-blessed Trinity, three Persons and one God, Whom now and at all times we worship

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and adore, receive our petitions ; perfect our repentance ; absolve us from our sins ; receive us back again to Thy divine favour ; grant that through the help of our supplications we may gain possession of our souls, and, persevering unto the end, attain unto everlasting life.

Glory be to the Father . . .

Father in Heaven, Whose love has crowned our lives with blessings, and Whose goodness no human tongue can tell, we rejoice that Thou hast given us this opportunity of uniting our hearts in the worship of Thy most holy Name.

We thank Thee that Thy tender mercy is over all Thy works ; that not a sparrow falleth to the ground without Thy knowledge ; that Thou carest for all Thy creation ; and that much more dost Thou care for us whom Thou hast made in Thy likeness, and whom in Thy mercy Thou hast redeemed.

4 We thank thee for Thine unwearied patience towards us who so often grieve Thee ; for Thy mercies which come fresh every morning, and which are renewed every night ; for Thy divine pitifulness toward us in our weakness, and for all our experiences of Thy goodness and grace.

We thank Thee that though Thou dost fill the heavens and the Heaven of heavens with Thy glory, Thou dost deign to make our hearts the dwelling place of Thy Spirit ; and that in Thine infinite love and wisdom Thou hast united Thyself to us most gloriously in Christ.

5 We thank Thee for Him Whom Thou didst send into the world to be its light and guide ; for all prophets

Thanksgiving, Confession and Petition

and evangelists, teachers and reformers ; for saintly men and women, who, having endured into the end, have entered into rest ; and for the innumerable company of the elect both in Heaven and upon earth, who do Thy will, and glorify Thy name.

We thank Thee that Thou hast called us out of darkness into light, and into the fellowship of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord ; that Thou hast promised never to leave us nor forsake us ; and we glorify Thee for the good hope we have that Thou Who hast begun a good work in us wilt continue it unto the end.

Father in Heaven, while we bless Thee for Thy mercies, and for all Thy love vouchsafed to us in Christ, we confess that our hearts are burdened by a sense of our great unworthiness. When we bring our lives into the light of Thy Holy Presence we realize how stained they are by sin. We are not worthy so much as to lift up our eyes unto Thee. Lord, for Thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, that we may decline from sin, and incline to virtue, and walk with a perfect heart before Thee now and evermore.

Hear these our supplications, O God, and mercifully absolve, cleanse and comfort each one of us, that with the joy of the forgiven we may continue in Thy worship, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Our Father . . .

Closing Evening Prayers

Heavenly Father, Who watchest with sleepless love the lives of Thy children, help us now, as our day of worship closes, to lift our hearts to Thee. Let the holy influences of this day remain around our lives to keep and guard us in the hour of need. Take us, and all our loved ones, under Thy most Fatherly care ; watch over us while we sleep, and when we wake be near us. Amid all our earthly duties, mercifully protect us that we fall not away from Thee, but, being ever by Thee preserved and befriended, may we enter into that blessed country where the redeemed dwell in safety, and where Thy will is perfectly accomplished. Grant this and every blessing which Thou seest we need, for Jesus' sake.

Saviour Divine, we lift our hearts to Thee, seeking Thy blessing ere we part. Accept, and bless to our souls, the worship of this day. Let Thy gracious benediction rest upon us, upon our loved ones, upon those who this night are in sorrow or suffering, and upon every lonely and desolate heart. May they and we be as those who wait for Thine appearing, who watch for the morning, and who endure unto the end.

Closing Evening Prayers

Father in Heaven, Who hast brought us unto the closing of this day of rest and gladness, accept our grateful thanks, we beseech Thee, for all its worship. Pardon in our service and in our lives all that Thou hast seen unworthy, and accept in Thy mercy that which we have rendered Thee of honest purpose and in sincerity of heart. Go with us where we go ; dwell with us where we dwell ; and on the morrow, if Thou dost spare us, go with us to our several duties. Through life's long day, and death's dark night, be Thou our Guardian and our Light, for Jesus' sake.

☉ **God**, Who hast been with us throughout this day, abide with us throughout this night, and through all the days and nights of our mortal life. Should sorrow await us on the morrow give us strength to bear it ; should joy be our portion may we accept it as from Thee ; and at all times of our life, in joy or sorrow, in life or in death, keep us, and abide with us, until the day-star ariseth, and the morning light appeareth, when we shall abide for ever with Thee.

Most gentle Shepherd, Who lovest Thy sheep, and callest them all by name, Who tendest the ailing and carriest in Thy bosom the lambs of the flock, extend Thy hands in benediction over us as we part ; bring back to Thy fold all who foolishly wander, all Thy weak and wayward sheep ; enclose us in safety ; wash us from our many stains, and make us white and spotless, that we may be Thy sheep, and may love, and be loved by Thee, O Shepherd Divine.

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Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time to make our common supplications unto Thee ; and dost promise, that when two or three are met together in Thy Name Thou wilt grant their requests ; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Thy servants as may be most expedient for them ; granting us in this world knowledge of Thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen. (St. Chrysostom)*

Baptism of Infants

To you, the parents, this service is full of tenderest and holiest meanings. It is a service of thanksgiving and praise to the good God Who has thus befriended you, and given you this child to love and tend, and to fill your hearts and home with joy. It is a service of consecration in which you give yourselves and your little one again to God, promising by His grace to make your home a place of holy affections, to give to your child a godly example, and to train *him* in the love, and pursuit of all that is pure and true.

And to us all, through this Sacrament, Christ speaks with tender appeal. Pointing to this little one, as He did to a little child long ago, He says, Except ye become as a little child—simple, natural, trustful—ye cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

May God in His rich mercy restore unto us the child-spirit, and so in lowliness fit us to become the children of the Highest.

The Minister shall then say to the parents

In thus presenting your child for baptism do you profess your faith in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Guide, and do you promise, in dependence upon the Holy Spirit, to rule your household in the fear of God, to instruct this child in the truths of our most holy faith, and both by precept and example to train *him* in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Answer. I do.

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who of Thine infinite mercy and goodness hast promised unto us that Thou wilt not only be our God, but also the God and

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Father of our children ; we beseech Thee to sanctify by Thy Spirit, and to receive into the number of Thy children, this infant whom we shall baptize according to Thy word. Grant that *he*, coming to mature age, may confess Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom Thou hast sent, and may serve Thee and be profitable to Thy Church all the days of *his* life. So guide, protect, and inspire *him* that, when this life has been usefully spent, *he* may be brought into the full fruition of joy and blessedness in Heaven, where with the Son and the Spirit Thou dost reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The congregation shall now stand, and the Minister, sprinkling water upon the head of the child, shall say

A.B., I baptise thee into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

He may then add this blessing (or it may be sung by the choir)

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

The Minister shall then say

This child is now publicly received into the fellowship of the Church. Wherefore receive ye *him* in the Lord as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

PRAYER

Almighty God, the Father of all the families of the earth, we give Thee hearty thanks on behalf of these

Baptism of Infants

Thy servants Whom Thou hast blessed in the gift of this child. We beseech Thee to grant unto *him* Thy Fatherly protection. Surround *him* in days of infancy and childhood with Thy loving care ; mercifully preserve *his* life, and grant that, growing in stature, *he* may grow in wisdom and in Thy divine favour, and ever faithfully serve Thee as an heir of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Bless, we beseech Thee, the parents to whose care Thou hast entrusted this little life ; guide them in their home duties ; grant unto them wisdom in all things to do Thy will, and so to conduct their lives that they shall glorify Thy Name.

We commend to Thee all the homes and families of this congregation. Help all parents to show to their children a good example, and give to all the children the spirit of love and obedience. Grant us in our home life to honour Thee, and in loving devotion to serve one another.

Almighty God, we beseech Thee, let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend Thy Church ; and because it cannot continue in safety without Thy succour, preserve it evermore by Thy help and goodness ; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

BENEDICTION

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

Baptism of Adults

SUGGESTED ORDER OF SERVICE

Prayer.

Hymn.

Passages from Scripture.

Address.

Profession of Faith.

Baptismal Prayer.

Baptism.

Post-baptismal Prayer.

Hymn.

Benediction.

PRAYER

Almighty God, in Whom we live and move and have our being, without Whose aid nothing can prosper, and without Whose presence all worship is vain ; let our worship of Thee at this time be fruitful in praise and glory to Thy Name, and may the harvest be unto holiness, and the end unto everlasting life, through the mercy and guidance of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Minister shall then say

Hear now the words of our Lord which He spake in instituting this Sacrament of Baptism : " And Jesus came unto them and spake unto them saying : All authority hath been given unto Me in heaven and on

Baptism of Adults

earth. Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost ; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you ; and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

[The following passages may also be read : Ezek. xxxvi. 25-28 ; Rom. vi. 3-4 ; Gal. iii. 26-27.]

Then shall follow a short address, after which the Minister shall say to the candidate for Baptism

In thus seeking Christian Baptism do you desire to make profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Friend ; and do you promise, God helping you, to follow in the way of His commandments, to do His will, and, from henceforth, humbly to love and serve Him ?

Answer. I do.

PRAYER

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast entrusted to Thy Church on earth the Word and Sacraments of Thy grace, and Who in Christ Jesus our Lord hast commanded us to make disciples of all men, baptizing them into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost ; graciously regard, and help us, as now we seek to obey His command, and to receive in His Name Thy servant into Thy most holy Church.

We beseech Thee, O God, with the washing of water to bestow upon *him* the fulness of Thy grace, that, being baptized of Thy Spirit, *he* may be cleansed from every stain, and be united to Thee in living faith. And

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grant, O most merciful Father, that, being received into Thy visible Church, *he* may be numbered with Thy true disciples and, walking with Thee in newness of life, may enter at last into Thine everlasting Kingdom, and enjoy with all Thy pure saints the glory of Thy presence, through the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The Catechumen kneeling, the Minister, naming him (or her), shall say as he sprinkles water upon the head

I baptize thee into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. (*adding*)

The very God of peace sanctify thee wholly ; and I pray God thy whole spirit, and soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[Or the following may be sung by the congregation

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee.

The Lord make His face to shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.]

Then, turning to the congregation, the Minister shall say

This person is now received into the fellowship of the Church, and is solemnly pledged to confess the faith of Christ, as His servant and soldier, to *his* life's end. Wherefore receive ye *him* in the Lord, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

PRAYER

Most Holy God, without Whose blessing all our acts are unavailing, and without Whose Spirit no grace can be given, set the seal of Thy Spirit upon this act of

Baptism of Adults

Thy Church, and accept the oblation which out of a thankful heart Thy servant offers now unto Thee.

We praise Thee for all Thy care and protection which Thou hast shown unto *him*, and that Thou hast given *him* to make a good confession of *his* faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Impart unto *him* now, and at all times, Thy heavenly grace, that *he* may not be overthrown by any temptation, or defeated by any trial, but rather putting *his* whole trust and confidence in Thee may *he* be supported, encouraged, and blessed.

Let Thy mercy descend upon all Thy Church, we beseech Thee. Wash us again from the stain of our sins, grant that, being buried anew with Christ, we may rise again into new and fuller life, and into more consecrated service.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Our Father, which art in Heaven . . .

HYMN

BENEDICTION

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *Amen.*

Admission to Full Communion

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prayer.

Hymn.

Questions.

Prayer.

Candidates received.

Address.

Prayer.

Hymn.

Benediction.

PRAYER

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of Whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, bestow upon us, and upon all Thy servants the spirit of reverence and of godly fear, that we approaching Thee in our worship may be received of Thee, and that all we say and do may be for Thy glory, and our continual good, through Jesus Christ, to Whom with Thee and the Holy Spirit be glory, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

HYMN

At the close of this Hymn the communicants who shall have taken their places in front of the Minister shall stand.

The Minister then shall say

The following are the names of those who have

Admission to Full Communion

applied for admission into full communion with the Church.

The Elders (or Deacons) being satisfied as to the Christian knowledge and sincerity of these persons, who have already been received into the Church by Baptism, we are now met to receive and welcome them to the privileges of full communion.

The Minister shall then address the Candidates in these or other suitable words :

Dearly Beloved, in your Baptism you received the sign and seal of your engrafting into Christ, and were solemnly engaged to be the Lord's. Now that in the goodness of God you have received instruction in the truths of His Holy Gospel, and have expressed a desire to enter into full communion with the Church, it is meet that you should make public Confession of your faith, remembering how it is written, Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father in Heaven ; and also, With the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

In thus seeking entrance into full communion do you desire to make profession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Friend ; and do you promise, God helping you, to follow in the way of His commandments, to do His will, and from henceforth humbly to love and serve Him ?

Answer. I do.

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PRAYER

☉ **GOD**, Who with watchful love dost surround our lives, we bless Thee for all Thy mercies unto these Thy servants, that Thou hast graciously protected them unto this present hour, and in especial that Thou hast written Thy Name in their hearts. We thank Thee for their confession of love and allegiance to Thee; and now we beseech Thee to continue Thy work of grace; perfect them in every good word and work; grant that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith, to the end that they, being rooted and grounded in love, may be strong to apprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that they may be filled with all the fulness of God.

Our Father which art in Heaven . . .

The Minister shall then say

Dearly Beloved, seeing that ye have now made a good Confession before God and these witnesses, we admit you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to partake of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and welcome you to full communion with His Church.

And the very God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Ministers and Office-bearers shall then give the right hand of fellowship to each.

The Minister shall then say to those present

These persons, having now been admitted into full

Admission to Full Communion

communion with the Church of Christ, are cordially commended to your confidence, and love in the Lord.

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Here, if considered necessary, a suitable address may be given.

PRAYER

Father in Heaven, Who alone can seal the acts of our lives and turn them into spiritual blessings, accept these Thy servants who have professed their faith in Thee, and whom now, in dependence upon Thy Word, and in the Name of Thy Son, we have received into the fellowship of Thy Church. Save them, we beseech Thee, from all ill-savour of sin, bless them with blessings heavenly and earthly, send down upon them the seven-fold gift of Thy Holy Spirit, and make the doors of Thy Church ever open to them in mercy and in faithfulness. And now may the very God of peace sanctify them wholly, and we pray God their whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

HYMN

BENEDICTION

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion

ORDER OF SERVICE

Scripture Sentences—The Comfortable Words.

Prayer—Collect of Adoration.

Communion Hymn.

Scripture—Words of Institution.

Exhortation.

Eucharistic Prayer.

Distributing of the Elements.

Prayer of Thanksgiving.

Offertory for the Poor.

Hymn—Consecration.

Benediction

SCRIPTURE SENTENCES

Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him. He also will hear their cry, and will save them.

The Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away His face from you, if ye return unto Him.

The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in Him.

The Holy Communion

OPENING PRAYER

Most Holy, most Loving God, our Father in Heaven, in this hour of gracious memory and of holy communion, be with us. Speak words of loving welcome and encouragement to every heart ; make us so conscious of Thy nearness in Christ that our sense of fear and unworthiness shall be swallowed up in the sense of Thy mercy. Feed us with the bread sent down from Heaven, and give us deeply to drink of the river of our salvation. Hear us, O Holy, and most Blessed God, for the sake of Him Whom Thou hearest always, even for the sake of our adorable Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Or,

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid ; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. (Book of Common Prayer)*

Or,

Most Blessed Saviour, Who hast made Thy table to be a place of banqueting, where the souls of Thy faithful followers are nourished by the Bread which Thou dost give ; refresh us, we beseech Thee, by making us partakers of Thy sacred Body and shed Blood, which Thou didst offer for our redemption, and grant unto us in this hour of blessed communion, that our faith in Thee may be confirmed, and our love for Thee enriched, Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, dost reign one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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COMMUNION HYMN

SCRIPTURE—WORDS OF INSTITUTION

I Cor. xi. 23-26.

For I received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night on which He was betrayed, took bread ; and when He had given thanks He brake it, and said, Take, eat ; this is My Body broken for you ; this do in remembrance of Me. After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Covenant in my Blood ; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come.

The Minister may thereafter address to the Communicants the following exhortation :

Dearly Beloved, it is meet that we who desire to be made partakers of this Holy Sacrament, should consider in our hearts the exceeding benefits bestowed upon those who draw near in faith, and in sincere love of Christ.

And that we be not unworthy of these so great benefits, let us humbly examine ourselves, lest peradventure coming unworthily we receive not any blessing, but the rather bring judgment upon ourselves.

Let us, therefore, confess in our hearts before God our exceeding unworthiness, and with most eager repentance crave His forgiveness ; and be ye well assured that he who, out of an honest heart, confesseth his sins, and humbly seeketh absolution, and increase of grace, will be well received of the Father, Who in His Son,

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our most blessed Lord Jesus, hath said : " HIM THAT COMETH UNTO ME, I WILL IN NO WISE CAST OUT."

Then shall the Minister offer unto God a prayer of humble access.

(It is suggested that this prayer include—Confession of unworthiness and supplication for pardon and access ; Thanksgiving for our redemption purchased by Christ ; Prayer to the Holy Spirit to sanctify the elements ; Self-dedication and offering of ourselves unto God.)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Most Holy and Most Merciful Father, Who in Thine inestimable mercy hast permitted us to gather around the Table of our Lord, regard in Thy loving-kindness all Thy people here assembled, and have mercy upon us, we humbly beseech Thee.

We confess that we are not worthy of this high and holy privilege. We have forfeited Thy good pleasure by our sins, and only merit Thy divine displeasure. Wert Thou swift to mark iniquity, who should be able to stand ? Not in our own righteousness, O Lord, not in our own righteousness do we present ourselves before Thee, but in the righteousness of Jesus Christ our Lord. O renew Thy mercies unto us who now as suppliants surround His Holy Table ; cleanse us from all ill-savour of sin ; restore in us Thy Holy Covenants, that we may be enabled to offer unto Thee true oblations, and the sacrifices of a humble and contrite heart.

Most Blessed Saviour, Who for our sakes didst empty Thyself of heavenly glory, and for the accomplishment of our peace didst ascend unto the Father, come into

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our midst, we implore Thee, and gladden and enrich our hearts by Thy Blessed Presence. Here in this hour of blessed privilege we would recall all that Thou hast done for us. We remember with bowed heads Thy sufferings, the agony of the midnight watch, the shame and scoffing, the cruel pains and violent death which Thou didst endure for us. Thou wast wounded for our transgressions ; Thou wast bruised for our iniquities ; the chastisement of our peace was upon Thee. O hear us, then, as we proclaim our trust in Thee ; lift us into holy fellowship with Thy Sufferings ; teach us to bear the cross for others ; give us some part in Thy great purposes with the world, and help us in meekness and submission to yield our lives to Thy holy discipline.

O Holy, and Ever-blessed Spirit, Who proceedest from the Father and the Son, impart now unto our souls divine grace, and bless these symbols which speak to us of Christ's Broken Body and Shed Blood. And as with deep humility and adoration we receive them, grant that we may by faith be united to Him in His mystical Body, that He, entering within the veil of the flesh, and tabernacling in our souls, may recreate us in His holy likeness, to the end that He dwelling in us, and we in Him, we may be united to Him in deathless life, and made inheritors with all the saints of that glory which is everlasting.

O Holy and Blessed Trinity, three Persons and one God, hear us as now in this hour of communion we re-dedicate ourselves body, soul, and spirit unto Thee. We unite with all Thy Holy Church throughout the world in the praise and glory of Thy Holy Name.

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Accept in Thy mercy this oblation of ourselves which now in weakness, but in sincerity, we offer as a sacrifice upon Thine altar ; endue us with divine strength and heavenly fortitude ; mercifully protect us when in the world we are exposed to temptation, and so defend us that through our mortal life we may ever walk with a perfect heart, before Thee, now and evermore.

And now unto Him Who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. *Amen.*

Or,

Almighty God, Who hast given us in this Sacrament a perpetual Memorial of Thy Love, and of the Passion of Thy dear Son, we praise and glorify Thy Holy Name that Thou hast called us to be partakers of the feast, and hast given us a place in Thy Church and Kingdom. We beseech Thee to receive us as now we present ourselves as suppliants at the throne of Thy divine Majesty. Have not regard unto our unworthiness, O Lord, but regard our need ; mercifully cleanse us from our sins ; restore unto us the joy of our salvation, and grant unto us that, worthily approaching the table of the Lord, we may be fed with those inestimable benefits which Thou hast prepared for us in Him.

O God, Who didst gladden the hearts of men by sending Thy Son into the world, may the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ gladden now our Feast. Come close unto each of us in Him ; bring us into loving remembrance of that Divine Love of His which for our sakes

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emptied itself of heavenly glory, and in utter self-abnegation poured itself out unto death, even the death of the cross. O unite us afresh to Him, feed us with heavenly bread, make this Holy Sacrament unto us a means by which we shall be lifted nearer unto Thee, and united with Christ in fresh bonds of love and gratitude. Let Thy Holy Spirit descend and bless the elements, and as with deepest humility we partake of them, may our souls be nourished, and may we be enabled truly to offer ourselves unto Thee, and consecrate ourselves to the service of our fellow-men.

Most Blessed and Gracious Father, Who alone canst speak words that bring to us light and helpfulness, speak, in Thy great pitifulness, unto each one of us, such words as Thou seest we need. Speak to the weary and heavy-laden around Thy table, and to the doubting and desolate of heart. Grant unto them some word that shall lift their drooping spirits up unto Thee, and that shall give them new hope and courage for the battle of life. Speak, we pray Thee, unto the aged, and to those that are drawing nigh unto death ; comfort their hearts, O Merciful Father, strengthen them in the faith ; lift their eyes to behold the city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Speak words of gracious and tender welcome, O God, to those who for the first time come to Thy Table, and who profess their faith in Thee. We thank Thee for their presence, and that Thou hast crowned their faith, and united them with Thy Holy Church. Let Thy hand rest upon them now, O God ; fill their hearts with secret joy in Thee ; may the Saviour be very near to them in the breaking of

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bread, and satisfy them abundantly with His bounty. Come near unto us all, our Father, for we are all needy, and weak and hungering ; grant that, as we eat the Bread, and partake of the Cup, that speak to us of love and sacrifice, our souls may go out in passionate love and adoration to Thee, and to our Saviour Jesus Christ. Lord hear us ! O Lord help us ! Let Thy merciful hands be extended in blessing over each one of us, for Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

Or,

We do not presume to approach the holy mysteries of this Sacrament, O merciful Lord, our God, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We confess ourselves unworthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy table, much less to present ourselves as suppliants of Thy grace. Wherefore, we beseech Thee, gracious Lord, of Thy Divine Clemency, to help us to partake worthily of these holy symbols of our redemption ; grant that our souls being cleansed, and our sins pardoned, by the most precious blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ, we may, by His continual and ever-blessed intercession for us, enjoy Thy favour, be filled with Thy Spirit, and become inheritors of Thy heavenly kingdom. And we beseech Thee, by the same Spirit, to aid us to offer ourselves, body, soul and spirit, as an oblation unto Thee, Who, with the Son and the Holy Ghost, reignest, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister say, when he delivereth the Bread,

The Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread ; and when He had given thanks He brake

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it, and said, Take, eat ; this is My body broken for you ; this do in remembrance of Me.

Or,

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thee unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on Him in thine heart by faith with thanksgiving. *Then shall the Minister say, when he delivereth the cup,*

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new covenant in My blood, this do, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come.

Or,

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thee unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

When all have communicated the Minister shall then offer unto God a prayer of thanksgiving, giving thanks for His mercies received in this Sacrament, glorifying His Name for all the faithful departed, for His Holy Church in heaven and upon earth, and finally closing with an ascription of praise and adoration.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Most blessed God and Heavenly Father, Who hast united us in the mystical Body of Thy Son, and hast made us heirs in Him of the goodly heritage of Thy kingdom ; we thank Thee for this hallowed hour of communion, for Thy nearness unto us in the breaking

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of bread, and for that faith by which we have been enabled to feed upon Christ ; and we bless Thee that out of Thy pure mercy Thou hast enriched and replenished our souls in Him. We now most humbly beseech Thee to continue Thy favours unto us. Grant that the vows which here we have made may be performed in our lives, that this holy communion may not be to our condemnation, but to our eternal salvation.

We commend to Thee in our prayers all those throughout the world who are joined to us in the one true faith. We glorify Thee for the Church of the firstborn both in heaven and upon earth, for all the faithful departed who, having served Thee in their day and generation, have entered into their rest, and for all Thy servants around us who do Thy will upon earth, and serve Thee in the Church and Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Be pleased, O Lord, to unite Thy people in love and godly charity, and let Thy Church, spread abroad upon the earth, draw into its fold all those who, weary of their sins, seek redemption in Christ, and that heavenly peace which passeth understanding.

Heavenly Father, we bring in our hearts to Thee in love and tenderness all who are dear to us ; we pray for those in our homes who are too feeble to come to Thy House, and for the little ones of the flock who are too young ; we pray for our loved ones who sit by our side, and for our dear brethren, the members of this congregation, who have joined with us in this blessed sacrament. Grant to us all, when our journey here is ended, to meet around Thy throne, and to join in the songs of the redeemed.

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And now unto Him that loveth us, and hath loosed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God His Father, unto Him be the glory and the dominion, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Or,

Heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts to Thee in gratitude and praise. We thank Thee, O Lord, for this hour of blessed fellowship, for the faith by which we have fed upon Christ, for the sense of Thy near Presence, for the assurance of our forgiveness, and for all the spiritual strength and comfort Thou hast imparted to our souls. Grant us Thy divine help to keep the vows we have made; may the uplifting sense of Thy Presence leave us not as we leave Thy House, but remain to guide and defend our lives. Grant unto us patience and perseverance, that as often as we faint and grow weary we may be strengthened by Thy grace.

We remember at this hour of blessed communion all our brethren. We entreat Thee on behalf of each member of this congregation, especially the sick, and those who through infirmity are absent from Thy Table. Bless all aged folk, and little children; keep in Thy perpetual peace all those that put their trust in Thee, and may the whole world know that Thou art bringing all things into perfectness through Thy Word.

We thank Thee and bless Thee for the communion of saints of which Thou hast given us also to have part. We glorify Thee for prophets and martyrs and holy men of old who with pure conscience kept the faith, and, having served their day and generation in the fear of God, fell on sleep; and we praise Thee for all whom we

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have known, and at whose side we have sat in days gone by, whose pilgrimage now is ended, and whom Thou hast taken to Thyself. We thank Thee for their faithful lives, and for their most godly example, and we beseech Thee that we, animated by a like faith, may serve Thee in this life, and be joined with Thee, and with all Thy saints, in the joy and felicity of Thy Kingdom.

And now unto Him Who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. *Amen.*

Or,

Ⓞ **G**od, Who in Thy benign mercy hast given to us, unworthy, to partake of the Bread of our life, and of the Chalice of our redemption, we adore Thee for Thy loving-kindness. Grant unto us who have been exalted with Thee on the mount, that we may not forsake Thee when we descend into the valley. We therefore beseech Thee, O Lord, to maintain us in Thy peace, and so to enrich us by Thy grace, that we, living for Thy glory here, may be received of Thee hereafter, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY FOR THE POOR

HYMN

BENEDICTION

And now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the

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sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PART III

I. SPECIAL SEASONS

CHRISTMAS

Most loving Father, Who hast given unto the world Thy Son Jesus, in Whose Name we come, and in Whose coming we rejoice; we thank Thee for the gladness of this day, for its tender joys and gracious memories, for the ties which unite us together as families or friends; and for all human love and kindness which make this day gladsome unto us, and which warm the heart with affection and good-will. We thank Thee for all sympathy which has been shown to the sick, the aged, and the poor; for all kindly charities, and acts of benevolence, and for all things which have unlocked human hearts, and which have drawn us nearer to each other, and nearer unto Thee. And we bless Thee that Thou hast a share in all our joy as in all our sorrow, that Thou seest and rewardest all unselfish acts, and dost enrich the lives that are mindful and compassionate. Help us, we beseech Thee, in the midst of all human love to remember Thy great tenderness toward us, the gracious gifts of Thy unfailing Providence, and, above all, the gift of Thy Son.

Hear us, Heavenly Father, when we pray for our homes, and receive our grateful thanks for all the gladness of re-union, for the children who have returned safely from

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school, and for the young men and women who have been at work in the world, and who have returned to celebrate with their loved ones the Christmas festival. Hear us, as we pray for any who amid the gladness of others are sad, for any who are lonely and far from friends, who are sick or sorrowful at heart, or to whom this season brings sad memories of loved ones whom Thou hast taken to Thyself. Our hearts now go out to such in tender sympathy, and we ask for them a double portion of Thy Spirit, that their sorrow may be blessed to them, and may yield in their hearts the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

We thank Thee, most gracious Father, for all the tender thoughts which this season brings of Jesus. We bless Thee that He came into the world as a little child, and grew up in our midst in loving sympathy with all our human needs, and human sorrows. We thank Thee that He came into the world as light in the midst of its darkness, as peace in the midst of its strife, as love in the midst of its bitterness, and as life in the midst of its death. And now we pray Thee that He may be born anew in all our hearts, that by faith we may receive Him, and by love open wide the doors of our hearts to His most gracious incoming. Unite us, we beseech Thee, with Him in duty and in sacrifice, in pity and in helpfulness, in hope and in charity. Teach us to do His works, and grant that more and more He may come into the world, and cast out every bitter wrong, and bring in the blessed reign of peace and good-will. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Special Seasons

THE NEW YEAR

Eternal Father, in Whose sight a thousand years are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night, we adore Thy sovereign mercy in that Thou hast spared our lives, and brought us to see the beginning of another year. Blessed be Thou, Lord God of Israel, our Father, for ever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory. Both riches and honour come of Thee. In Thy hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious Name.

Receive our grateful thanks for all the way Thou hast led us. We look back upon the past, and gain strength to go forward into the future. For Thou hast been merciful to us beyond our deserts, alike in joy and in sorrow Thou hast been with us, and each day Thy rich bounty has blessed us. Help us now in faith and in confidence to commit ourselves anew to Thy safe keeping, and as we begin the year with hearts fixed upon Thee, grant that all its experiences may deepen the love in our hearts, and may bind us with new and glad chains to Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Help us, with ourselves, to commit to Thee, as unto a faithful Creator, our loved ones, those who are near us, and those who are distant, our kinsmen and acquaintances, all who depend upon us, or upon whom we depend. May Thy goodness unite them in deepening devotion to Thee, and may all their ways throughout the year be ways of pleasantness and of peace.

Bless, we beseech Thee, our homes, our business, our country, and all our fellow-men. May this be the year of

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plenty, and may Thy kingdom come more and more into the world and into the hearts and lives of men. Bind, we beseech Thee, all sections of society closer together ; emancipate the world from cruel oppression, let the love of Christ more and more prevail, and peace and charity become the habitations of men's hearts. Grant these, and all mercies which Thou seest we need, for Jesus our Redeemer's sake. *Amen.*

GOOD FRIDAY

Most Blessed Father, Who spared not Thine own Son, but didst give Him a ransom for us all, hear us, as in this hour of solemn worship we cry unto Thee. We have come to Calvary, the place of sacrifice, and yet of victory ; of death, and yet of life. We look up and behold Him who was pierced for us, and we are stricken with a deep sense of our sinfulness. O God, let the Sacrifice of the Crucified One atone for our sins ; grant that for us the Cross may not have been in vain. Let the river which flows from Calvary, pass over our souls, and cleanse us from the stains of our sins, and win for us eternal salvation.

O Christ, Who didst drink to the last the bitter chalice of Thy sore passion, Who through all Thy earthly life didst companion Thyself with the suffering and the poor, and Who in most divine compassion didst heal and help all sorrow-laden and stricken souls, unto Thee, most kind and pitiful, we turn. We bless Thee for all Thou hast done for us ; and for all the helps and hopes that have been born in human hearts through the inspiration of Thy Life, and the victory of Thy Death. Thy love

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for us passeth knowledge ; we cannot measure its length, or breadth, or height, or depth ; we can only in broken gleams of light see Thine infinite beauty, and the wonder of Thy perfectness. But we believe that Thou camest forth from God, and that Thou art the utterance of Divine Love, and that Thou dost unite us in deathless life to Thyself. We believe that Thou dost hear us, and that in ceaseless operations of mercy Thou art fulfilling Thy purposes in the world, and that no aching heart can cry to Thee without an answer, or without reward. Increase then our faith, O Saviour Christ ; help us to prove our love for Thee, make us Thy true disciples, and glad servants of Thy will.

O Holy Spirit, write on our hearts, we beseech Thee, the lessons of this hour. Help us to live our lives in the spirit of the Cross, to accept with resignation the trials of our earthly pilgrimage, and in all the disciplines of life to remember Christ, Who, in the midst of them all, was meek and lowly in heart. Fill us with a divine pity for the weak, with longing to save the lost, with willingness to sacrifice that others may be blessed. Teach us amid darkness to believe and labour for the light, in all doubt to seek for the truth, in all strife to seek peace and pursue it, and so to work and so to pray that the Kingdom of God may come more and more into our hearts, and into the life of the world.

Most Holy and ever Blessed Trinity, accept, we beseech Thee, these our prayers and supplications which are at this time before Thee, and account us worthy with purity and holiness to keep Thy commandments, that, serving Thee in this our earthly life, we may be joined

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with Thee in that life which is to come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

EASTER

Eternal Father, Who by the Resurrection from the dead of our Lord Jesus Christ hast begotten us again to a lively hope, help us with spiritual joy to celebrate this glad festival. We bless Thee for the gracious message which this day brings to us, of life triumphing over death, and for the immortal hopes that burst from the empty tomb, and that come to us through our risen and glorified Lord. Help us in the spirit of the Resurrection to rise on stepping-stones of our dead selves to higher things ; in the midst of the temporal, set our affections on the eternal ; and in the midst of worldly duties, help us to live in joyous contact with the unseen.

Most blessed Father, we pray Thee to raise us above the life of sin to the life of all beautiful and holy things ; help us to mortify our corrupt affections, to crucify our carnal desires, to die unto sin, that we may live unto righteousness. May we be assured of the joyous reality of the Resurrection of our Lord by the surety of His Spirit dwelling in us. Raise us above all low desires, quicken us in all holy and pure motives, and make spiritual things so certain, that all fear shall be done away as we live in the presence and power of our risen Lord, and glorified Redeemer.

We humbly beseech Thee, O God, our merciful Father, to prepare us in this life for that which is to come. Give unto us the upward look, the heavenly will, the

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spiritual mind ; consecrate our life afresh to the service of the highest ; in the spirit of gladness and hopefulness send us forth to do our work, and to bring the joy of Christ's risen life into the hearts that are dead in sin.

May the heavens be opened to us, and the heavenly light shine on our path and encourage us in our work, and may the assurance of Christ's victory over all the ills that darken the world give peace to our hearts, and confidence to our words. Hear us, O God, for the sake of that Immortal Love Thou hast revealed unto us in Christ, and accept us in His Name. *Amen.*

WHITSUNTIDE

☉ **G**OD, Who art a Spirit, help us to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. We thank Thee that Thou hast poured out Thy Spirit upon Thy Church, and hast set her as a Light to shine in dark places, and as a Lamp to guide the feet of the weary and wandering to Thyself. Send forth Thy Light, and Thy Truth, we beseech Thee, and lead us with spiritual longings unto Thy Holy Place, and help us to present unto Thee spiritual sacrifices.

We bless Thee that Thou hast visited the world with the outpouring of Thy Holy Spirit upon it, that Thou hast inspired prophets and teachers and holy men of old, sending them into the world with rich messages, and holy warnings ; and that, in ceaseless operations of mercy, Thy Spirit works in our lives, and in the lives of men, inspiring us with pure thoughts and spiritual desires.

O Source of uncreated Light, Whose benignant rays cheer all lowly and loving hearts, descend upon us with

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Thy mighty power, and breathe into our souls the breath of heavenly life. Thou seest us weak, and wanting, needing Thy Light, yet failing to search truly for it ; hungry and thirsty, yet foolishly feeding upon earthly food, and neglecting the spiritual manna. O come to us, Spirit of God, and open our hearts and minds to better things ! Come to us as fire, and purge our souls from the dross of sin ; burn away all carnal affections, and all impurities ; make our hearts glow with pure desires and holy ambitions, and fill us with warm inspirations, and earnest longings. Come to us as Light, and open our darkened minds to the loveliness of Truth ; take of the things of Christ and reveal them unto us, and as we behold Him Who was pierced for us, may our hearts go out to Him in adoring love and gratitude. Come to us, Heavenly Spirit, as the dew. Water our dried and parched hearts, and from their barrenness bring a blessed spring-time of beauty and fruitfulness ; awaken all that is best in us, and implant in our hearts new seeds of love and service, and may our natures, dark and unfruitful before, bring forth rich increase to Thy glory, and to the good of our fellow-men.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

INVOCATION

Almighty God, the source of all goodness, Who givest fruitfulness to the soil, and beauty to the earth, and Who hast crowned the year with Thy goodness ;

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grant unto us, this day, the good husbandry of the heart, that the precious seed of Thy Word, being sown in us, may bear a rich harvest of love to Thee, and to our fellow-men, and may spring up within us unto everlasting life. Grant this, we humbly beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake.

THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Who art good to all, and Whose tender mercies are over all Thy works, we draw near to Thee with grateful hearts, thanking Thee for the rich bounty of the harvest.

We praise and bless Thee, O Thou giver of all good, for the bountiful provision Thou hast made for the wants of Thy children ; that Thou givest all living things their meat in due season ; and that Thy tender care is over all Thy works.

We bring to Thee our joyous thanksgiving for the fruit of the field safely gathered in, and for all the increase that the fertile earth has yielded ; and we glorify Thee for Thy promise that while the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest shall not cease.

We thank Thee that Thou hast called us to be fellow-labourers with Thee ; that while men have toiled Thou hast not withholden from them Thy help ; and that in Thy providence Thou hast given Thy servants to see the reward of their labours.

We thank Thee for the glory of Thy creation ; for the constancy of Thy laws ; for the beauty of the changing seasons, and for all the tokens the world contains of Thy love for even the least of Thy children.

Almighty Father, Who hast given us all these things

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richly to enjoy, help us to show forth our gratitude for Thy gifts by a right use of them, by a constant remembrance that Thou art the Giver, and by seeking to use them not for ourselves alone, but for the good of our fellow-men. Grant that the revelation of Thy Fatherly goodness may encourage us to be generous and kind towards others, and may there be in us His Spirit Whose meat and drink it was to do Thy will.

Finally, we beseech Thee, that in that harvest where the angels are the reapers, we may be gathered as wheat into Thy garner, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

PRAYERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

Almighty God, Who, in Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, hast commanded Thy Church to go forth into all the world, preaching the good news of salvation, we give Thee hearty thanks for Thy servants who have left home and kindred, and who now are labouring amongst the heathen, and in the dark places of the earth.

We beseech Thee for these Thy servants ; for missionaries, doctors, teachers, evangelists, ~~and native preachers~~, and for all whom Thou hast called to this service ; entreating Thee to grant unto them support in their labours, and at all times the consciousness of Thy presence and blessing.

Defend those, we beseech Thee, who labour in unhealthy climes, or amid savage races ; comfort those who are lonely, and who are far removed from visible communion with their brethren ; and cheer those who are depressed because of the difficulty of their work,

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the fewness of their converts, or the opposition they encounter.

Hear us, we entreat Thee, as we pray for all native churches together with their converts ; enable those who have confessed their faith in Jesus Christ to walk worthy of their vocation ; preserve them amid doubt and perplexity because of their feeble knowledge, and defend their lives in the midst of persecution.

We beseech Thee, Heavenly Father, that Thou wouldest enlighten the minds, and sanctify the hearts of those preparing for this ministry ; that Thou wouldest awaken the conscience of the Church at home, that more labourers may be sent forth ; and that Thou wouldest so quicken in each one of us the spirit of liberality, that the needs of Thy Church in other lands may not fail through our want of faith, through the coldness of our prayers, or through lack of ready help.

~~Finally,~~ we beseech Thee to hasten that glad day when Christ shall come again in great power, and when all men shall know Thee, from the least even unto the greatest. *of galilee*

Now unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father ; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Ⓞ **Most Merciful Saviour and Redeemer,**
Who wouldest not that any should perish, but that all men should be saved, and come to a knowledge of the truth, fulfil Thy gracious promise to be present with those who are gone forth in Thy Name to preach the gospel

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of salvation in distant lands (especially in . . .). Be with them in all perils by land or water ; in sickness or distress ; in weariness and painfulness ; in disappointment and persecution. Bless them, we beseech Thee, with Thy continual favour, and send Thy Holy Spirit to guide them into all truth. O Lord, let Thy ministers be clothed with righteousness, and grant that the words spoken by them may never be spoken in vain. Endue them with power from on high, and so prosper Thy work in their hands that the fulness of the Gentiles may be gathered in, and all Israel may be saved. Hear us, O Lord, for Thy mercy's sake ; and grant that all those who are called by Thy Name may be one in Thee, and may abound more and more in prayers and in free-will offerings for the extension of Thy kingdom throughout the world, to Thy honour and glory, Who livest and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

PRAYER FOR HOSPITAL SUNDAY

Almighty God, Who didst send Thy Son into the world as the Good Physician, Who healeth our sicknesses and all our diseases ; we beseech Thee for all hospitals, infirmaries, nursing homes and kindred institutions which aim at the healing of sickness, the amelioration of suffering, and the strengthening of the weak. Consecrate the gifts which this day we offer for the support of this holy ministry of love and mercy, and grant unto us, we beseech Thee, the true spirit of compassion, that we may give liberally, and from the heart.

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Hear us, we beseech Thee, for all the inmates of these institutions ; for those who suffer from physical, mental, or nervous disorders ; for those about to pass through serious operations ; for those dangerously ill, and whose lives are despaired of ; and for all those stricken by disease, or enfeebled by sickness or old age. Grant unto these Thy children, O Lord, in their extremity, the merciful support and comfort of Thy Spirit.

We beseech Thee for all doctors, physicians, surgeons, nurses, and for all who tend the sick ; grant unto them that in their treatment of disease, they may be enlightened by Thee ; may they add to their scientific knowledge the power of prayer, and, with sympathy and skill, minister to those committed to their charge.

We beseech Thee for those who administer the laws of public health, who study the origin of disease, and the methods of prevention and cure ; and for all public bodies which seek to improve the health and increase the well-being of the community ; that they may be guided of Thee, and blessed in all their activities.

Hear us, O God, as, in especial, we beseech Thee for those whose lives are diseased by sin ; for the vicious in mind, and the impure in imagination ; for those in whom the evil germs of passion and self-will have corrupted the love of better things, and yet who are careless and indifferent. Grant, O God, that sin-sick, and weary, they may come at last to Christ the Good Physician, Who alone can cure our sicknesses, and take from us the heavy burden of our sins.

Finally we pray that in all times of need, in all seasons of suffering, and in the hour of death, we may repose

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our souls in Thee, beseeching Thee, when this life is ended, to grant us to enter that land of rest, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow, neither suffering nor death, but where the redeemed see Thy Face, and dwell with Thee in life everlasting. Grant this, we entreat Thee, for Jesus our Redeemer's sake. *Amen.*

THE CLOSING YEAR

God of our Fathers, Who hast led Thy people in all generations, still, like our fathers, would we feel Thee near. We bring our little lives, and, as we hold them up against the light of Thine eternity, we realize our frailty and our need. We are as children crying in the night, as children crying for the light, and with no language but a cry. Yet we bless Thee that Thy Fatherly heart responds to the cry of Thy children, and that, wise and pitiful, Thou dost wipe away our stains and forgive us for our misdeeds. Unto Thee, our Father, come we now, humbled by a deep sense of our unworthiness, stricken with the knowledge of our failures, weak with the sense of the weakness of human endeavour, and of the frailty of human life. Forgive us, we beseech Thee, for all past transgressions; give courage to our fainting spirits; unto us, unworthy, bestow salvation, and restore us to purity and peace.

Most loving God, we remember at this hour Thine unfailing love through the year that is closing. For all Thy helps and mercies beyond recompense, we bless and praise Thy Holy Name. Receive our grateful thanks for the goodness and grace which have attended those we love, and for all the way Thou hast led them

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and us ; help us to profit by the lessons of faith and duty Thou hast been teaching us, and fit us for Thy Heavenly Kingdom. Hear us, as with trembling lips we thank Thee even for the trials of the past ; for the sorrows that have darkened our life ; for the chastening which seemed for the present not joyous, but grievous ; grant that now, and afterwards, it may work in us the peaceable fruit of righteousness. We unite our hearts to praise Thee as members of Thy Church, and of this congregation. We thank Thee for all blessings bestowed upon us, for all new truth revealed, and for every inspiration which has helped us to live a better life, to do our work, and serve our fellow-men. Renew our lives, we pray Thee, by uniting us in spiritual fellowship with Christ, and bless us with the rich blessings which come from Thee.

Most pitiful Father, we entreat Thee for all who close the year in sin and shame ; for the thankless lives that lay no lowly offering on Thine altar, who know no repentance, and seek no way of healing ; and for all who are careless or dissolute. Hear the prayers of Thy children for such, and bless the efforts of Thy Church to reach them ; grant that the light of Thy Truth may win its way into their hearts, and lead them at last to Thee.

Hear us as we pray for one another. Bless us as members of households, as members of Thy Church, as citizens of this great empire. Forgive us for all wilful neglect, for duties undone, for obligations unworthily fulfilled ; consecrate us, we pray Thee, to the service of the highest, and lift us above all selfish living into truer conceptions of our duties and our privileges.

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Lord Eternal, Light of our life, Who hast been our protection through the days and nights of the past, keeping us in peace ; bless us this day, and in all days and nights of our mortal life. Sow in our hearts the fear of Thy Name, and the love of Thy Truth ; from every evil work turn us away, in every good work join us to Christ, and grant us in blessing so to bear fruit in this life that we may be received in that which is to come, and, ever living in the society of the just made perfect, may glorify Thee to eternal ages, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

II. OCCASIONAL SERVICES

Children's Service

Minister

And they brought little children unto Him, that He should touch them. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.

Ye are all the children of the light, and the children of the day. Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children.

Let us pray.

Most Loving Father, Who dost speak to us within our hearts, and Who hearest the prayers of all Thy children, teach our lips to pray, help us to worship Thee Who art kind and good, and accept all our praises and our prayers which now, and at all times, we offer Thee in the Name of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Children : Amen.

Minister (or to be said by the whole Congregation kneeling)

Ⓞ **God**, Who art pure and holy, and Who hatest sin, we come to Thee, asking Thee to forgive us for our sins and failures. Thou canst see into our hearts, and knowest our many evil thoughts and desires. Thou seest our every action, and, far more than we can understand, art grieved when we go astray. Father, forgive

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us for all our wrong-doing, wipe away our sins, fill our hearts with a deep sorrow for all the sorrow we have given Thee, and help us to love Thee more, and serve Thee better, for Jesus' sake. *Amen.*

HYMN.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.

(In reading the Psalms Minister and Congregation should read alternately.)

HYMN.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON.

LITANY

Minister. Our Father, Who lovest Thy children, help us to believe that though we cannot see Thee, yet Thou art ever near us, and that Thou hearest us when we pray.

For all things bright and beautiful around us ; for the world in which we live ; for its flowers and fields, its sunshine and shadow ; and for its many lessons of love and care ;

Children. We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

M. For Thy goodness to us in our homes ; for the love of father and mother ; for kind friends and dear companions ;

C. We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

M. For all good men and women who love Thee and do Thy works ; for those who have taught us to trust Thee, and whom we love, because they are good, and kind, and true ;

C. We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

Children's Service

M. For the gift of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus; for His love for little children; for His death upon the Cross that our sins may be forgiven, and for His rising again to live in our hearts;

C. We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

M. For the old and the weak, the lonely and the poor, the sick and the sorrowing, and for all who are unhappy;

C. Hear us, loving Father.

M. For little children who are fatherless or motherless; for those who are homeless and friendless in the world, and for all who are weak in body and are suffering pain;

C. Hear us, loving Father.

M. For all who know not that Jesus loves them, and gave Himself for them; for the children of heathen lands, and for those who labour to teach them of Thee, and of Thy love;

C. Hear us, loving Father.

M. From unkind words and deeds, from an evil temper and an unforgiving spirit, from deceitful lips and a disobedient heart;

C. Deliver us, Lord Jesus.

M. From evil thoughts and evil companions, from pride and selfishness, from the love of things which are hurtful, and from all fretfulness and discontent;

C. Deliver us, Lord Jesus.

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M. That we may learn to love Thee in our youth, to follow Jesus and do His works, to be brave and unselfish, honest and true-hearted;

C. Help us, Holy Spirit.

M. That we may be helpful at home, dutiful to our parents, diligent in our studies, and kind to one another;

C. Help us, Holy Spirit.

M. That we may serve the aged and the poor, the lonely and the sad, and that we may be modest and gentle in all our words and ways;

C. Help us, Holy Spirit.

M. Bless our parents, and our friends, our Church and School, our Minister and Teachers; keep our hearts from evil, and bring us all at last to Thy Heavenly Kingdom.

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

Service for Choir

MORNING

The Choir having assembled in a room or hall adjoining the Church, the Minister shall take his place at the desk or table, the Choir standing. The service may then be opened in the following way.

Minister. O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

Choir. Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

M. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving.

C. And make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

M. For the Lord is a great God.

C. And a great King above all Gods.

M. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.

C. And to sing praises unto Thy Name, O Most High.

Let us pray.

Ⓞ **G**OD, Who hast given us to serve Thee in Thy sanctuary, prepare us, in mind and heart, worthily to engage in the holy offices of praise and prayer, and grant that we, using the talents Thou hast given us, for Thy glory, and in the service of Thy most holy Church,

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may be fitted to praise Thee with our lips, and love Thee in our hearts, and ever glorify Thee in our lives, world without end.

Choir. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

EVENING

Minister. O Lord, open Thou our lips.

Choir. And our mouths shall show forth Thy praise.

M. All Thy works shall praise Thee, O Lord.

C. And Thy saints shall bless Thee.

M. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens.

C. Praise Him in the heights.

M. Praise ye Him, all His angels.

C. Praise ye Him, all His hosts.

M. Praise ye Him, sun and moon.

C. Praise Him, all ye stars of light.

M. From the rising of the sun, unto the going down of the same.

C. The Lord's Name is to be praised.

M. Praise God in His sanctuary.

C. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee.

Let us pray.

Ⓞ **G**OD, Whose Name is glorious for ever, and Who dost deign to accept our unworthy service, help us to praise Thee this night not only with our lips, but in our hearts; crown us with Thy loving-kindness and tender

Service for Choir

mercies, and let the doors of Thy Sanctuary open unto us, and to all Thy people, in peace and blessing ; may our songs arise unto Thee from hearts that are holy, and from lips that are pure, that all our worship, begun in Thee, may in Thee be ended, and remain with us to bless and sanctify our lives, and to bring us to Thy Kingdom which is never-ending. Grant this, O Father of mercies, for Jesus' sake.

C. The Lord be with you.

M. The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit.

C. Amen.

(The responses of the Choir may either be spoken or chanted.)

Ordination of Minister

SUGGESTED ORDER OF SERVICE

Prayer.

Praise.

Old Testament Lesson.

Praise.

New Testament Lesson.

(Questions put to Minister.)

Ordination Prayer.

Charge to Minister and Congregation.

Praise.

Benediction.

Our Help is in the Name of the Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth.

OPENING PRAYER

● **God**, our help in ages past, God of our fathers, Who hast led Thy people in all generations, lead us, and guide us now ; purify us from every thought of sin, fill us with Thy most Holy Spirit ; glorify Thyself in all our worship, and in all that we shall say and do, and to Thee, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, we ascribe honour and majesty, glory and power, now and evermore. *Amen.*

PSALM C.

Ordination of Minister

The Scripture Lessons may be selected from the following : Ex. iii. 1-15, iv. 1-16, xxxiii. 12-19, xxxiv. 5-9 ; Josh. i. 1-9 ; Ps. xvi., xxv. 1-14, xxvii., cxix. 1-16., cxix. 89-104 ; Is. vi., xl. 1-11, 26-31, lv., lxi. ; Jer. i. 4-19 ; Ez. iii. 1-21, xxxiii. 1-9, xxxiv. ;

Matt. ix. 35-38, x. 1-8, xxiv. 42-51, xxv. 14-30, xxviii. 18-20 ; Luke ix. 57-62, x. 1-11, xii. 35-48 ; John x. 1-18, xxi. 15-22 ; Acts i. 1-11, ii. 1-21, xx. 17-38 ; Rom. i. 1-17 ; Eph. iv. 1-16 ; Col. i. 9-29 ; 1 Tim. iii., iv. 6-16, vi. 11-21 ; 2 Tim. ii., iii., iv. 1-18 ; Titus i. ; Heb. xiii. 5-21 ; 1 Peter v. 1-11 ; Rev. i., ii., iii., vii. 9-17, xxii.

TE DEUM *or* VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS.

ORDINATION PRAYER

Almighty God, the God and Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Creator and Inspirer of all things visible and invisible, Source of every blessing, and Giver of all grace, into Thy most holy presence do we seek to enter with humble and adoring hearts.

We glorify Thee that Thou hast built Thy Church upon the foundation of Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone, into which building all those, who by faith accept Thee in Him, are builded. We bless Thee that in every generation Thou hast called men into the Ministry of the Word, giving some to be apostles, some teachers, some pastors, baptizing them with the Holy Ghost, and enduing them with power from on high. And now, O Lord God, we beseech Thee to grant unto us Thy promised help and guidance, as in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the

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great King and Head of the Church, we ordain our brother to the office of the Holy Ministry in this place.

O God Most Holy, Whose presence and blessing alone can make living the acts of Thy Church, endue Thy servant, we beseech Thee, with the power of Thy most Holy Spirit ; pour out upon him those gifts which are necessary for the faithful performance of his sacred duties ; defend him from every assault of Satan ; give him strength for his work ; fill his heart with a sense of the glory and gladness of the Evangel Thou hast given him to preach ; and give him power to preach it in all its depth and sweetness, its tenderness and grace. Speak through him, we beseech Thee, and make him Thy voice, so that sinners may be converted unto Thee, that those long dead to purity and holiness may be reclaimed, that the indifferent may be aroused, and that the faithful of Thy people may be strengthened and encouraged.

Heavenly Father, from Whom all help cometh, we pray Thee to aid Thy servant in his pastoral work amongst this people. Grant that as he goes in and out of the homes of his flock he may carry with him a heart warmed with love and sympathy. Give him courage to witness for Thee amongst the worldly and careless, give him wisdom to deal with such as are in doubt or perplexity, give him gentleness in guiding such as are timid and afraid. Help him in Thy strength to comfort all that mourn, to bind up the hearts of the desolate and afflicted, and to all to be a friend and brother for Jesus' sake.

Most Gracious God, we beseech Thee to bind together

Ordination of Minister

the hearts of minister and people, unite them from this hour in all love and loyalty to Thee, help them to work together in concord, and make Thy Church in this House a centre of peace and grace. Bless all who hold office, we entreat Thee; may they be men whose hearts Thou hast touched, willing in service, and able in counsel, so that both the spiritual and temporal affairs of Thy Church may be wisely governed.

Almighty God, by Whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is illumined and sanctified, we pray Thee that Thy Holy Church throughout the world may be preserved in the true faith, purged from all false teaching, and defended from all assaults of the evil one. Bless, we beseech Thee, all ministers and all stewards of the mysteries of Christ; preserve their souls from sin and the world, and help them so to serve their Master in their holy office, that the sheep under their care shall be lovingly fed and tended. Bless all Thy people the world over, and so hasten Thy work of redemption that all Thy wandering sheep may be speedily brought within the fold.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

At the conclusion of this prayer, the Minister who presides shall then address the Minister-elect, saying

In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Head of the Church, we do hereby declare you to be

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ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, and inducted to the pastoral charge of this congregation ; and we commend you to God and to the work of His grace, which is able to make you perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Induction of Minister

ORDINATION PRAYER ALTERED

Almighty God, the God and Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Creator and Inspirer of all things visible and invisible, Source of every blessing, and Giver of all grace, into Thy most holy presence do we seek to enter with humble and adoring hearts.

We glorify Thee that Thou hast built Thy Church upon the foundation of Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone, into which building all those who by faith accept Thee in Him are builded. We bless Thee that in every generation Thou hast called men into the Ministry of Thy Word, giving some to be apostles, some teachers, some pastors, baptizing them with the Holy Ghost and enduing them with power from on high. And now, O Lord God, we beseech Thee to grant us Thy promised help and guidance as in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the great King and Head of the Church, we set apart this our brother to minister in holy things to this people in this place.

O God Most Holy, Whose presence and blessing alone can make living the acts of Thy Church, we give Thee heartfelt thanks for all Thou hast done through Thy servant in past days; pour out upon him now, we entreat

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Thee, a fresh baptism of Thy Holy Spirit, grant unto him an increase of those gifts which are necessary for the faithful performance of the duties of his sacred office ; . . .

(Continued as in Ordination Prayer)

Ordination of Elders or Deacons

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Ex. xviii. 13-27 ; Num. xi. 6, xvii. 24-29 ; Ps. xxiv. ; Isa. lxi., lxii. ; Ezek. xxxiii. 1-20.

Acts vi. 1-7, xx. 17-32 ; Rom. xii. 1-18 ; Eph. iv. 1-16 ; 1 Tim. i. 1-13, iii.; 1 Peter v. 1-11.

PRAYER

☉ **God**, Who in Christ Jesus our Lord hast opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers, and dost call men to be fellow-labourers with Thee in the Church of Thy dear Son, look favourably, we beseech Thee, upon these Thy servants, called to serve Thee in the eldership, in this Church and Congregation.

And now, as in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the great King and Head of the Church, we do solemnly ordain these our brethren to this office ; we beseech Thee to send down upon them Thy Holy Spirit, and fit and consecrate them for their spiritual duties.

O God, from Whom alone help cometh, hear the prayers of Thy people offered at this time on their behalf. Grant unto Thy servants an enriched sense of Thy presence and power, a consciousness that Thou hast called them to this labour, and wilt graciously enrich them with all spiritual blessings. Give unto each, we entreat Thee, a zeal for the extension of Thy Kingdom,

Ordination of Elders and Deacons

a deep love of Thy House, a prayerful heart, and a fervent spirit. Bless them in all their duties, and in all work they undertake be Thou their strength ; enlighten them from on high, and so defend them from all assaults of sin that their lives shall be an ensample to the flock, and an encouragement to the feeble-hearted.

Most Holy God, hear us, as we also pray for all those who in any way serve Thee in this place. Help us to renew our vows, and anew to consecrate ourselves to Thy most holy and blessed service. Bless all our brethren of this congregation ; may all our lives be lived in Thy constant presence, and in the light and love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Jesus Christ, throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

Laying of Foundation Stone

OPENING SENTENCES

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.

Behold I lay in Zion a chief corner-stone, elect, precious, and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded.

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

HYMN.

SCRIPTURE LESSON.

(Ezra iii. 9-13 ; or Psalm lxxxiv.)

DEDICATION PRAYER

Almighty God, Who hast built the living Temple of Thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner-Stone: Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleased Thee to put it into the hearts of Thy servants to erect an House for Thine honour and worship. Accept the work of their hands, we humbly beseech Thee, and regard us with Thy loving-kindness as we lay this stone to the glory of Thine All-Holy Name.

O Lord our God, Who delightest in the sacrifices of Thy people, grant unto Thy servants in this pious work

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Thy continual help ; pour out upon them the spirit of gratitude and consecration ; preserve them in unity, and increase in their hearts all godly love and charity. Bless in Thy mercy the wardens and workers, and all engaged in the erection of this building ; preserve their lives from harm or accident ; may every stone be truly laid, and every undertaking honestly fulfilled. Abundantly multiply all things necessary for the building of this Thy House, and bring it to a speedy and happy completion.

Almighty God, we beseech Thee, let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend Thy Church ; and, because it cannot continue in safety without Thy succour, preserve it evermore by Thy help and goodness ; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Our Father . . .

Then all things being made ready, the stone shall be laid by the person appointed thereto, who shall pronounce these words

To the glory of God, and in the faith of Jesus Christ, we lay this foundation stone, in the Name of God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, one God, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister say

This place is hereby set apart for prayer, and for the praise and worship of the most holy Name of our Lord

Laying of Foundation Stone

Jesus Christ. Here let true faith, the fear of God, and brotherly love, remain for ever.

HYMN.

("The Church's one foundation.")

BENEDICTION.

Dedication of a Church

OPENING SENTENCES

How amiable are Thy tabernacles, O Lord God of Hosts ; our souls long, yea, even faint for the courts of the Lord, our heart and our flesh cry out for the living God.

But will God in very deed dwell on the earth ? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee ; how much less this house which we have built. Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of Thy servants and to their supplication, O Lord our God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which Thy servants pray before Thee to-day ; that Thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place whereof Thou hast said, My name shall be there : that Thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which Thy servants shall make in this place : and hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest, forgive.

Praise waiteth for Thee, O God, in Zion ; and unto Thee shall the vow be performed. O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.

One thing have we desired of the Lord, that will we seek after ; that we may dwell in the House of the Lord all the days of our life, to behold the beauty of the

Dedication of a Church

Lord, and to inquire in His Temple. O send out Thy light and Thy truth ; let them lead us, let them bring us to Thy holy hill, even to Thy tabernacles ; then will we go unto the altar of God, to God our exceeding joy.

INVOCATION

Lord God of our fathers, Whose Name is glorious for ever, Thou sure refuge of Thy children in all generations, fill This temple with Thy most holy presence, and fill our hearts with deepest reverence and adoring praise ; enable us to ascribe unto Thee the glory due unto Thy Name, and accept now, and at all times, the worship of Thy people in this Thy House, which we offer through Him Who is the Heavenly Leader of all our earthly praise, even our Lord Jesus Christ, to Whom with Thee and with the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

PSALM C., lxxxiv., xxiv., or cxxii.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.

Suitable Passages.—1 Chron xxix. 1-25 ; 2 Chron. vi. ; Ps. xxiv. ; Ps. xlviii. ; Ps. cxxxii ; or 1 Kings viii. 22-53.

TE DEUM.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON.

Suitable Passages.—1 Cor. iii. ; Eph. ii. ; Heb. xii. ; Rev. iv., v.

HYMN.

RECITATION OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED.

At the close the people still standing, the Minister shall say

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Beloved Brethren, this House, which has been built for the honour and service of Almighty God, we now solemnly dedicate unto the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, one living and true God ; to Whom be glory and majesty, dominion and power, for ever and ever. Wherefore let us beseech Him to receive this offering at our hands, to accept the worship of His people in this place, to continue to us and to our children the pure Word of His Gospel, and to build up believers a spiritual house, a holy temple in the Lord.

Or,

Beloved Brethren, we have assembled with devout hearts to dedicate this building to the service of Almighty God. May He deign to accept the offering of praise and of prayer which we now present before Him, and grant His presence with His people whenever they draw nigh to Him in this place. For though the Most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands, and even the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him, much less this House which we have built, yet does He condescend to dwell with men and to hold converse with them. Wherefore I beseech you to draw near to the throne of the heavenly grace, in the full assurance that He Who revealed Himself in the glory of the Shekinah, will shine forth to gladden our hearts.

DEDICATION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and of earth, Whose glory is unsearchable, Whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, and yet Who deignest to

Dedication of a Church

dwell in the temple of our hearts, and to commune with us in the midst of our worship ; accept we beseech Thee at our hands this House which we have builded for the glory of Thy most holy Name. Look not upon the unworthiness of Thy servants, O God, who present this offering unto Thee ; regard not the unworthiness of our offering who are unable to render unto Thee anything worthy of Thine infinite majesty, but regard our hearts, as with adoring gratitude we dedicate this place to Thy worship and to Thy holy service. Eternal and most Blessed God, without Whose presence nothing is holy, and without Whose blessing nothing can prosper, descend now, we beseech Thee, and take possession of this place ; fill Thy Temple with Thy most Holy Spirit ; consecrate it to Thy service ; vouchsafe to make it unto us, and to our children, and to them that shall come after us, unto all times, a sanctuary of prayer, a house of blessing, yea, the very gate of heaven. Here, as Thy servants proclaim the gospel of Thy Son, may their words be enriched with all spiritual blessing, and may Thy sacraments of grace be rightly administered and joyfully received ; here may weary and laden hearts be drawn, and find in Thy worship recovery and rest ; here may burdened souls find the way to Calvary, and all the wants of Thy children be satisfied with the abundance of Thy grace.

Lord God, Merciful and Mighty, Who didst reveal Thyself unto our fathers in the olden days through many gracious revelations of Thy love and power, manifest Thyself unto us their children. Teach us to love and reverence Thy Sanctuary, satisfy us with the goodness

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of Thy House, make us neither to be separated nor estranged from Thee, and may the sacrifices of love and praise continually ascend to Thee from hearts that are holy and forgiven.

Glory be to the Father Who hath created us, glory be to the Son Who hath redeemed us, glory be to the Spirit Who hath sanctifieth us ; glory be to the Supreme and Undivided Trinity, one God for ever and ever.

Our Father . . .

DEDICATION PRAYER

II

(From Directory of Public Worship of the Presbyterian Church of England)

☉ **God our Father**, most High, most Holy, unto Whom we have access by one Spirit through our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thy Name for Thy loving-kindness and Thy truth. We humbly beseech Thee to accept our dedication of this house which we have built for Thy service, that within its walls Thy people may worship Thee in spirit and in truth from generation to generation. At what time soever Thy servants hold their solemn assemblies in this place, may it please Thee to inspire them with Thy Holy Spirit, that the words of their lips and the meditation of their hearts may be acceptable in Thy sight. Receive their sacrifice of praise, and when the contrite pour out their hearts before Thee, hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest, forgive. Grant, we entreat Thee, that the true doctrine of Thy Gospel may here be taught, and the

Dedication of a Church

Sacraments of Thy grace be duly administered, that they who are athirst may draw water with joy out of the wells of salvation. May Thy Word work effectually in the hearts of them that believe, so that they may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, be strengthened unto every good work, and keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. May those who are dead in sins be made alive unto God, and such as have gone astray be brought back unto the Shepherd and Bishop of their souls. And satisfy all Thy servants with the goodness of Thy House, that young men and maidens, old men and children, may praise and magnify Thy Name. Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be the glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus, unto all generations for ever and ever. *Amen.*

At the conclusion of the prayer of Dedication the officiating Minister shall say

By the authority committed unto us we set apart for ever from all common or profane use this House, and we hereby dedicate it to the glory of God, and for the holy service and mysteries of the Church.

HYMN.

BENEDICTION.

Consecration of a Stained Glass Window

Almighty God, Who art the Creator of all things visible and invisible, and Who hast called us out of darkness into Thy marvellous light ; mercifully accept our service, and receive this window which now we dedicate to the honour of Thy Holy Name, and in pious memory of . . .

Receive it, we beseech Thee, as now we offer it to beautify the place of Thy sanctuary, and to be a token, as long as it shall endure, to the piety and devotion of Thy servant, for whose life we render our thanksgivings. Grant that, as often as the eyes of those who worship here are lifted up to behold it, they may receive instruction, and may be encouraged to dedicate themselves to Thee, Who livest and reignest, world without end. And do Thou, O most merciful Father, raise up of Thy mercy those who with like mind and heart shall honour Thee in their generation, and with meekness and sincerity serve Thy holy Church, through Jesus Christ.

Now unto the King, eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

Dedication of an Organ

Almighty Father, Who hast filled Thy servants with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship to devise instruments of music, and hast graciously appointed that these may be used in the worship of Thy sanctuary, be pleased, we beseech Thee, to prosper the use of this Organ to Thy service in this Thy hallowed House of Prayer.

Grant that it may tend to the promotion of Thy glory, and to the edification of Thy people.

Grant that all to whom Thou hast given skill in music, and who can play well upon an instrument, may here ever seek to set forth Thy praise, and that all who listen to their harmonies and melodies may be influenced thereby with holy and heavenly thoughts.

Grant that all Thy servants whom Thou hast called to minister in the Choir of this Thy House, may do as of the ability which Thou givest, seeking to edify the hearts of those who hear them, and to lift up their voices and spirits unto Thee.

✠ Grant that all who worship Thee here, even if they sing not with their voices, may join in the songs of praise with the spirit and understanding, and thus be united with all those who stand before Thee here, in offering Thee worship in spirit and in truth.

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O Thou Who hast taught us to glorify Thee in our bodies and our spirits which are Thine, help us, we beseech Thee, that whether we play with our hands, or sing with our lips, or listen with our ears, or whatsoever we do in word or in deed, we may do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks unto God and the Father through Him. *Amen.*

(Form of Prayer used at York)

Order for Marriage Service

The persons to be married, along with a sufficient number of witnesses, shall take their places before the Minister, the Bridegroom having the Bride at his left hand.

HYMN.

Then the Minister shall say

Dearly Beloved, we are here met in the presence of God, to join together this man and this woman in the bonds of holy wedlock, according to the ordinance of God, and the laws of this realm.

Marriage is an honourable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocence, and signifying to us the mystical union betwixt Christ and His Church. It is not to be entered upon by any lightly or thoughtlessly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God ; duly considering the ends for which it was ordained. It was ordained as the foundation and bond of family life ; for the bringing up of children in the nurture of the Lord ; and for the mutual help, society, and comfort that the one ought to have of the other. Into which estate these two persons now desire to enter. Wherefore, if any man can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now declare it, or else hereafter for ever hold his peace.

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Also speaking to the persons to be married he shall say

I charge you both, as ye shall answer to God, that if either of you know any impediment why ye may not be lawfully joined in matrimony, ye do now declare it; and be ye also well assured, that so many as are joined together otherwise than God's Word doth allow, are not united by God, neither is their marriage lawful in His sight.

If no impediment be alleged or confessed, he shall require the Bridegroom to say after him these words :

(The parties must repeat their names at full length.)

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment, why I, (A——— B———) may not be joined in matrimony to (C——— D———).

The Bride shall likewise say after the Minister :

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I, (C——— D———) may not be joined in matrimony to (A——— B———).

Then the persons devoutly kneeling, the Minister shall say,

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the Creator and Preserver of men, from Whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift, we bless Thee for all Thy benefits, and especially at this time for Thy holy ordinance of matrimony. We thank Thee that in Thy Providence Thou hast led these Thy servants into mutual affection and confidence. Assist them, we beseech Thee, to plight their troth, and in Thy Holy Name to exchange their vows of love and faithfulness. And may it please Thee, without

Order for Marriage Service

Whose benediction nothing can prosper, to vouchsafe to us now the joy of Thy presence. Grant this, O Father of Mercies, for the sake of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

All rising from their knees, the Minister shall ask :

Who giveth this woman to be married to this man ?

The father (or whoever takes his place) shall answer :

I do.

The Minister shall then say to the Bridegroom, addressing him by his full Christian name :

A——— B———, wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony ?

The Bridegroom shall answer :

I will.

The Minister shall then say to the Bride, addressing her by her full Christian name :

C———D———, wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony ?

The Bride shall answer :

I will.

Then the Minister shall say :

Join your right hands.

He shall then require the Bridegroom to say after him these words :

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, A——— B———, take thee, C——— D———, to

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be my lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, honour, and cherish, till death us do part, according to God's ordinance ; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

Or,

and promise to be to thee a faithful and loving husband, till death do us part ; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

The Bride shall likewise say after the Minister :

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, C——— D———, take thee, A——— B———, to be my lawful wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, honour, and cherish, till death do us part, according to God's ordinance, and thereto I plight thee my troth,

Or,

and promise to be unto thee a faithful and loving wife, till death do us part ; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

Then shall they loose hands, and the Minister shall say to the man :

In token and pledge of the covenant now made betwixt you both, place a ring on the third finger of the woman's left hand.

This done, he shall say :

By the authority committed to me, I pronounce these two to be husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Whom God hath joined let no man put asunder.

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He shall then pronounce over them this blessing :

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

HYMN *or* PSALM CXXviii.

Then the Minister shall say

I pray you to hear now what by the mouth of His holy Apostles God hath spoken touching the duties of husbands and wives.

To Husbands St. Paul saith :

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it ; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing ; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh ; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the Church ; for we are members of His body, His flesh and His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh (Eph. v. 25-31).

So also St. Peter speaketh thus :

Ye husbands dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life ; that your prayers be not hindered (1 Peter iii. 7).

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To Wives God hath spoken by the same Apostles. By St. Paul in these words :

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church ; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything (Eph. v. 22).

And by St. Peter in like manner :

Ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands ; that, if any obey not the Word, they also may without the Word be won by the conversation of their wives ; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning, let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price (1 Peter iii. 1-4).

Here the Minister may give the following address, or other such words of exhortation :

Permit me to offer unto you now a few words of sincere congratulation, and of kindly counsel.

By this beautiful and solemn ordinance of the Church you have been united together, to become the sharers of one home, and of each other's joys and sorrows, and this sacred relation is to last through life. It will become you, then, to seriously consider the path you ought to pursue.

No home can ever be blessed in which the Giver of all

Order for Marriage Service

blessedness is forgotten, and in the midst of your joy in each other I would ask you to remember the goodness of God toward you. Through days of childhood and of youth He has preserved you ; He has made you rich in each other's love, and brought you in His providence to this hour of happy union. The prayers of all who love you encompass the Throne of Grace on your behalf to-day, and we pray that the good God who has so graciously befriended you in the days that are gone, may shield you in time of danger, comfort you in times of sickness, and bring you both to a happy and fruitful old age.

When you leave this Church to-day, you go out into the world together, to found a new home, and to fight together the battle of life. And the secret of all happy married life is the joyous and uncomplaining bearing of each other's burdens. To be truly happy in your home you must learn to be truly unselfish, to forgive and to forget, and not to expect more from each other than each can give. You have each your own temperament, your own ways of looking at things, and that union which comes through dissimilarities acquiesced in, and recognized, can only be reached by much forgiving love, and by the highest exercise of patience and gentleness.

Most of all you will not forget to make your home beautiful. But beautiful homes are not made by lavish wealth, by decorations of art, or by costly furnishings. The house-beautiful is that which offers a shelter from the cold and enmities of the world ; which is warm with kindness, and with the comforts of love ; and which is a shrine of God's own peace.

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And now may the God of Peace, that brought from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Then, the persons devoutly kneeling, the Minister shall say,

Let us pray.

Most Blessed God, Who alone canst consecrate and make lasting all that we do here upon earth, let Thy blessing descend upon this union, we humbly beseech Thee, and upon these Thy servants united this day as husband and wife. We thank Thee for all Thy Fatherly mercies unto them, that through days of weakness and danger Thou hast spared them, bringing them unto the joy of this hour, and satisfying their love in one another. And now we commend them to Thy care. Grant them, we beseech Thee, all needful blessing; enrich them with the good things of this life; give them wisdom and prudence for all their duties, and the continual help of Thy Holy Spirit. Bless, we pray Thee, their home life, sanctify every experience, and consecrate every joy, and enable them to dwell together in the forbearance and tender purity of wedded love. And especially, we beseech Thee to grant that, amid all the trials and changes of this our mortal life, they may hold undimmed their faith in Thee; as their years increase may love to Thee deepen in their hearts, and whether in joy or sorrow, in sickness or in health, in life or in

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death, may they hold fast the promises which Thou hast given to them that love Thee.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Our Father . . .

Then the Minister shall pronounce the Benediction :

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Amen.

The Burial of the Dead

I. SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OR CHURCH

The Minister shall read passages from Scripture selected from the following :

We are strangers before Thee, and sojourners, as all our fathers were ; our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is no abiding.

We brought nothing into the world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away ; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

I am the Resurrection and the Life, saith the Lord ; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live ; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.

All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field ; the grass withereth, the flower fadeth ; because the breath of the Lord bloweth upon it ; surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth ; but the Word of our God shall stand for ever.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting to them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto children's children. The Lord will not

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cast off for ever ; for though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies. For He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth as a flower and is cut down ; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not. Man dieth and wasteth away ; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he ? As the waters fail from the sea, and the river decayeth and drieth up, so man lieth down and riseth not. Till the heavens be no more, they shall not wake, nor be roused out of their sleep.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart ; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous ; but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth his bones, not one of them is broken. The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servants, and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate.

My son, regard not lightly the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art reprov'd of Him. For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.

It is good for me that I have been afflicted ; that I might learn Thy statutes.

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away ; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

It is the Lord ; let Him do what seemeth Him good.

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FOR THE AGED

Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in its season.

All our days are passed away in Thy wrath ; we bring our years to an end as a tale that is told. The days of our years are threescore years and ten, or even by reason of strength fourscore years ; yet is their pride but labour and sorrow ; for it is soon gone, and we fly away.

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

FOR THE YOUNG

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him.

And David said, Is the child dead ? And they said, He is dead. Then David rose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself and changed his apparel ; and he came into the house of the Lord and worshipped ; then he came to his own house ; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat. Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done ? Thou didst fast and weep for the child while he was alive, but when the child was dead, thou didst arise and eat bread. And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept ; for I said, Who knoweth whether the Lord will not be gracious unto me, that the child may live ? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast ? Can I bring him back again ? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

The Burial of the Dead

Then shall the Minister say

Dearly beloved, seeing it hath pleased Almighty God to take to Himself the soul of our {brother
sister} departed, let us beseech Him to grant us His Holy Spirit, the Comforter, that our hearts may not faint or be troubled, but may find in Him their refuge and strength.

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, Whose pity is infinite, and Whose will is sovereign, be pleased to look at this time upon our sorrow, and for the sake of Thy dear Son, Who Himself likewise was partaker of flesh and blood, enable us so to listen to Thy Holy Word, that through patience and comfort of the Scriptures we may have hope ; and grant us the consolation of Thy Holy Spirit, that we, humbly acknowledging Thy just displeasure against our grievous sins, may nevertheless hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who died and rose again, and ever liveth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister read any of the following Scriptures :

Psalm xxxix., xc.; 1 Thess. iv. 13-18; 1 Cor. xv.
20-28, 35-38, 42-58.

Then shall prayer for mourners be offered.

Let us pray.

Father in Heaven, most gracious and most pitiful, at Thy feet we cast ourselves in this hour of sorrow and of loss. Thou knowest our grief, our loneliness, our pain, and Thou alone canst give us comfort

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in this dark hour of affliction. Look in mercy upon us, we beseech Thee ; pour into the hearts that are wounded Thy healing balm ; help us to realize in the midst of our grief that Thou art near us, that Thy Heart feels and knows our sorrow, that Thou hast part with us in our pain.

O God, Who givest, and Who takest again, help us to bend our wills to Thine, teach us the hard lesson of submission ; make this discipline of sorrow to work in us the peaceable fruits of righteousness. May it lift our thoughts and affections away from the world to things above, and bring us that patience of hope which finds its full fruition in Thee. Even now as we kneel before Thee with our sorrow weighing us down, come over the mountain of our distresses to us, we beseech Thee ; come into our hearts that are aching and empty ; speak words that will sooth and comfort us, that will lift our thoughts away from the sorrows of earth, to the joys and the peace of heaven. Father, teach us that though Thy Hand has sent this bitter grief, yet that Thou doest all things well, and teach our trembling lips to say, The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away ; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

O Holy Saviour, Friend of all burdened and sorrow-laden hearts, Who when on earth didst companion Thyself with the afflicted and bereaved, we thank Thee for the blessed hope we have in Thee. Thou didst tread the dark way for us, and hast illumined it with the light of immortality. We bless Thee that now we can look into the open grave and say in Thee, " O death, where is thy sting ? O grave where is thy victory ? the sting of

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death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Grant us now this faith, most blessed Lord; help us to think of our beloved dead as alive in Thee, and at rest from their labours.

O Holy and ever Blessed God, teach us by Thy Holy Spirit to lay to heart the lessons of this hour. We realize how short life is, how near to us all is death. Help us to work while it is to-day, realizing that the night cometh when no man can work. Save us from our sins; blot out our guilty past; help us to turn to Thee Who art our everlasting hope, and our only refuge. O God most Holy, help us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, take away our sins; wash us in Thy most precious blood; cleanse, redeem, restore, comfort us, for Thy mercies' sake. *Amen.*

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

Or,

Almighty God, our Father in Heaven, Whose we are, from Whom we come, to Whom we go, be near us in this solemn hour, and support our feeble steps. Hear the cry which now ascends unto Thee from wounded and stricken hearts. We have no help but Thine, O Lord, Thy voice alone can comfort us as we commit our loved ones to the dust. Thy Hand alone can support our wounded and fainting spirits. O reveal Thyself now into Thy children, we beseech Thee; comfort the bereaved with Thine own most gracious comfort; lift from them the burden of their grief, and give them grace with meekness to submit to Thy Holy Will.

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Most blessed God, we praise Thee that even in the darkest hours of human loss we can see shining through our tears the calm rays of Thy love and mercy. Thou hast not left us to die in our sins, nor left us to perish as those without hope, but in Thy Son hast brought life and immortality to light, and clothed death in the white robe of immortal hope. We bless Thee that Thou hast prepared a place for them that love Thee in Thy home above, and that there all Thy ransomed children gather, and with exultant hearts glorify Thy Name; and we give Thee thanks for Thy servant whom Thou hast taken to Thyself (in the fulness of years). We bless Thee for *his* patient life, and godly example, and for all the gracious memories which linger in our hearts, and which will not die. And now that *his* task is ended, and Thou hast called *him* to *his* rest and reward, may no murmur of self-will be heard upon our lips, comfort us with the thought that our loss is gain to *him*, that to be with Christ is far better.

And now, most gracious Father, we pray Thee to make this sorrow turn to blessing in all our hearts. Make it Thy voice speaking unto each one of us; a voice of warning, reminding us that death cometh sure and swift; a voice of entreaty, calling us to forsake sin, and live a holy and Christ-like life; a voice of comfort, assuring us that we too, when our work is ended, shall receive the blessed reward. Give us strength to take up our appointed tasks, to strive to do them better, to weave into them a more loving purpose, and a holier endeavour. Bless all the members of our families, help us all to be more loving, and gentle, and kind. Forgive us for all

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our many and grievous sins against Thee, and against one another, and may our sorrow teach us to forgive, even as we pray to be forgiven. Hear us, O God, and sustain us for all that lies before us, for Jesus, our Saviour's sake.

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

FOR A CHILD

Most Merciful God, Who hast taught us to call Thee Father, we come to Thee in our bitter pain and sorrow, and pour out our grief before Thee. Thou knowest the pain that rends our hearts, Thou seest and with a pitying eye dost behold the desolate home, and wounded spirits of Thy children. O God, let the cry of all stricken lives, and the sigh of all lonely hearts, and the sob of the bereaved arise before Thee, and when Thou hearest, help, and comfort, and bless. Visit now, O Thou divine Consoler, the souls of Thy servants; lift their wounded spirits up unto Thee; teach them the lesson Thou wouldst have them learn; and out of their most bitter sorrow give them unexpected and heavenly consolation. Most tender Shepherd, Who lovest the lambs of the flock, Who dost gather them with Thine arm, and carry them in Thy bosom, we thank Thee for this little one whom Thou hast taken away from the dangers and snares of this earthly life to be at peace with Thee. O keep us from murmuring against Thee; teach Thy mourning ones that their little one is in Thy safe keeping, that though *he* may not come to them, that they may go to *him*, and help them from this hour so to live that they may be joined together at last in

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the joy and felicity of Thy Kingdom. Comfort all our hearts with thoughts of Heaven, that sweet and blessed country where there is no more parting, and no more death, where sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Blessed Saviour keep us safe amid the perils that surround us here, and when our call comes may we be willing and ready, knowing in Whom we have believed.

Our Father Which art in Heaven . . .

AT THE GRAVE

The Minister may recite one or more of the following passages of Scripture :

Our citizenship is in Heaven ; from whence also we wait for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ ; Who shall fashion anew the body of our humiliation, that it may be conformed to the body of His glory, according to the working whereby He is able even to subject all things unto Himself.

Fear not ; I am the first and the last, and the Living One ; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of death, and of Hades.

I heard a great voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He shall dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes ; and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying, nor pain, any more ; the first things are passed away.

When the body has been laid in the grave he shall say

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God to take

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unto Himself the soul of our *brother* departed, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground ; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust ; in sure and certain hope of the resurrection from the dead at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord ; even so, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours.

Let us pray.

God of all grace and love, we leave our *brother* in Thy good and holy keeping. Grant that we may now return to the duties and labours Thou hast appointed us in the world, relying upon Thy help. Comfort those who mourn ; support the bereaved ; keep them and us in loving fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth, and with those who are around Thy throne in glory. Comforted by Thy love, and supported by Thy strength, may we fulfil the time that remains to us, at peace with Thee, doing Thy Will with diligence, and bearing our trials with meekness, that so when this life is ended we may by Thy great mercy gain entrance into our heavenly home, through the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen*

APPENDIX

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord Thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth ; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them ; for I the Lord Thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me ; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain ; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.

Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work ; but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God ; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates ; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth,

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the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day ; wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.

Honour thy father and thy mother ; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's.

The following response may be said or sung by the congregation standing :

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

And as a final response :

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these Thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee. *Amen.*

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit ; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn ; for they shall be comforted.

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Blessed are the meek : for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness : for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful : for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart : for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers : for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The following response may be said or sung, the congregation standing :

Write these Thy words upon our hearts, we beseech Thee, O Lord.

Or,

Grant us this grace, we beseech Thee, O Lord. *Amen.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth ; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried ; He descended into hell (or hades) ; The third day he rose again from the dead ; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty ; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost ; The holy Catholic Church ; The Communion of Saints ; The Forgiveness of sins ; The Resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting.

Appendix

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

CHRISTMAS DAY, OR ADVENT.

Isa. vii. 10-16, ix. 2-7, xi. 1-10, 12; Mic. iv., v. 1-4; Luke ii. 1-20; John i. 1-18; Matt. ii.; Heb. ii.

CLOSING YEAR.

Deut. viii.; Ps. xc.; ciii.; Eccles. ix.; Matt. xxiv. 36-51, xxv. 1-13; Rom. viii. 16-39; 2 Pet. iii.; Rev. xxii.

NEW YEAR.

Deut. xi.; Ps. xci.; Isa. xl.; Hab. ii., iii.; Matt. v. 1-16; xxv. 14-30; John xv.; Rom. xii.; 1 Thess. v.; 2 Peter i.; Rev. iii.

THE CRUCIFIXION.

Ps. xxii.; Isa. lii. 13-15, liii.; Matt. xxvii. 29, 57; Mark xv. 1-41; John xix. 1-30; Rom. v.; Phil. ii. 1-11; Heb. x. 1-25.

EASTER.

Ps. xvi., cxviii.; Isa. xxv. 1-9, xxvi. 1-4; Jonah i. 17, ii.; Matt. xxviii.; Luke xxiv. 1-35; John xx.; Rom. vi., viii. 1-13; Col. iii. 1-17; Rev. i.

THE ASCENSION.

2 Kings ii. 1-18; Ps. xxiv., xlvii., cx., cxviii.; Dan. vii. 9-14; Mark xvi.; Luke xxiv. 44-53; Acts i. 1-11; Eph. i., iv. 1-16.

WHITSUNTIDE.

Isa. xi. xii., xlix., lxi.; Ezek. xxxvii. 1-10; Joel ii. 21-32; John xiv. 15-27, xvi. 1-15; Acts ii. 1-21; iv. 1-31, xix. 1-20; Gal. v. 16-26.

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HARVEST THANKSGIVING.

Deut. viii., xxvi., xxviii. 1-14; Ps. lxxv., cxlv.; Hos. ii. 14-23; Matt. xiii. 24-31; John iv. 31-39, vi. 26-36, xv. 1-16; 2 Cor. ix.; Rev. xiv. 14-19.

MISSIONARY SERVICES.

Ps. ii., xlv., lxxvii., lxxii., xcvi.; Isa. ii., xxxv., xlii. 1-17, xlix., lx., lxi., lxvi. 5-24; Jer. xxxiii.; Ezek. xlvii. 1-12; Jonah iii., iv.; Zeph. iii., viii. 20-23, ix.; Matt. ix. 35-38, x., xxviii.; John iv. 1-42, xvii.; Acts x., xiv., xvi. 6-40; Rom. x.; Eph. ii.; Rev. vii.

CHURCH COURTS.

Ps. xlviii., lxxxiv., lxxxvii., cxxii., cxxxii., cxxxiii.; Isa. vi., lxi.; Ezek. xxxiii. 1-20, xxxiv.; Mal. ii. 1-7; John x. 1-18, xiii. 1-20, xx. 19-23, xxi. 15-19; Acts xx. 1-38; Rom. xii.; 1 Cor. iii.; 1 Cor. xii.; 2 Cor. vi.; Eph. iv. 1-16; 1 Tim. iii.; 2 Tim. iv.

BENEDICTIONS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* 2 Cor. xiii. 1.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Amen.* Phil. iv. 7.

The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and give us peace. *Amen.* Num. vi. 24-26.

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Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus that great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever. *Amen.* Heb. xiii. 20.

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. *Amen.* Jude 24-26.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.* 1 Tim. i. 17.

The love of God the Father, and the grace of the only-begotten Son, and the fellowship and descent of the Holy Ghost be with you all, my brethren, for evermore. *Amen.* (*Syrian Liturgy*)

The one holy Father be with us. The one holy Son be with us. The one holy Spirit be with us. Blessed be the name of our Lord in heaven and in earth for ever. *Amen.* (*Syrian Liturgy*)

The blessing of the Father, and the bounty of the Son, and the gift of the Holy Ghost Who came down upon the apostles in the upper room of holy Sion, in like sort come down and be multiplied upon us. *Amen.* (*Abyssinian Liturgy*)

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The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all, now and ever, and world without end. *Amen.* (*Nestorian Liturgy*)

With Thy peace, O Christ our Saviour, which passeth all understanding and words, defend us, and keep us fearless from all evil; enrol us among Thy true worshippers who worship Thee in spirit and in truth; for unto the all-holy Trinity is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and ever, and world without end. *Amen.*

(*Armenian Liturgy*)

Keep us in peace, O Christ our God, under the protection of Thine holy and venerable Cross; save us from enemies visible and invisible, and account us worthy to glorify Thee with thanksgiving, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and world without end. *Amen.* (*Armenian Liturgy*)

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